## **2001 LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AND LABOR FORCE FORECAST FOR WASHINGTON**

## **APRIL 2001**

## Contents

EVECUTIVE CUMMARY	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
PopulationLabor Force	
Employment	
Personal Income	
CHAPTER 1 LONG-TERM FORECASTS OF WASHINGTON POPULATION AND NET MIGRA	TION 3
Net MigrationForecast of Net Migration	4
Natural Increase	
CHAPTER 2 LONG-TERM FORECAST OF THE WASHINGTON LABOR FORCE	13
Population Change and Labor Force Growth	
Migration	
Changes in Labor Force Participation	17
Male Labor Force Participation	
Female Labor Force Participation	21
Forecast of Total Labor Force	23
The Changing Profile: Aging, Female, and Non-White Workforce	24
Higher Proportion of Women in the Labor Force	
Aging of Labor Force	
Non-White and Hispanic Workforce	28
CHAPTER 3	
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYME	
Long-Term Employment Trends	
Goods-Producing Employment	
Lumber and Wood Products	
Paper and Allied Products	
Aerospace Other Transportation Equipment	
Primary Metals	
Machinery and Instruments	
Food Processing	

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Construction	41
Service-Producing Employment	42
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities (T.C.U.)	42
Wholesale Trade	43
Retail Trade	
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (F.I.R.E.)	46
Services	
State and Local Government	
Federal Government	48
Employment Diversity	48
CHAPTER 4	
	E4
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME	
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME  Total Personal Income Trends	51
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME  Total Personal Income Trends  Income Growth by Component	51 53
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME  Total Personal Income Trends  Income Growth by Component  Per Capita Income Trends	51 53 55
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME	51 53 55 55
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME	51 53 55 58
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME  Total Personal Income Trends	51 53 55 58 59
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME	51 53 55 58 59 61
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME  Total Personal Income Trends Income Growth by Component  Per Capita Income Trends  Outlook for Personal Income Growth in Washington Per Capita Income Growth Trend  Special Analysis: Trends in Earnings Changes in Real Average Earnings in Washington, 1979-98  Real Average Earnings Decline in Washington, 1979-88	51 53 55 58 59 61 62
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME  Total Personal Income Trends Income Growth by Component  Per Capita Income Trends  Outlook for Personal Income Growth in Washington Per Capita Income Growth Trend  Special Analysis: Trends in Earnings Changes in Real Average Earnings in Washington, 1979-98 Real Average Earnings Decline in Washington, 1979-88 Rebound in Washington Real Average Earnings, 1988-98	51 53 55 55 58 59 61 62 64
LONG-TERM FORECAST OF WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME  Total Personal Income Trends Income Growth by Component  Per Capita Income Trends  Outlook for Personal Income Growth in Washington Per Capita Income Growth Trend  Special Analysis: Trends in Earnings Changes in Real Average Earnings in Washington, 1979-98  Real Average Earnings Decline in Washington, 1979-88	

<b>TABLES</b>		
Table 1-1.	Components of Population Change: 1980-2020	11
	Washington Labor Force by Age and Sex, 1990 and 2025	
	Elderly Labor Force Participation and Education: Washington, 1990	
	Washington Labor Force Change	
Table 2-4.	Washington Labor Force: Historical and Forecast	26
	Labor Force Composition by Race: Washington	
Table 3-1.	Washington Labor Force and Employment	32
Table 3-2.	Washington Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Industry	34
Table 3-3. I	Percent Share of Total Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment	
	by Industry	
Table 4-1.	Real Income Growth by Component: Washington	53
	Growth in Real Earnings by Industry: Washington	
Table 4-3.	Personal Income Trends: Washington and U.S	60
Table 4-4.	Washington Real Average Earnings: Components of Change (1979-88)	64
Table 4-5.	Washington Real Average Earnings: Components of Change (1988-98)	65
<b>FIGURES</b>		
Figure 1-1.	Components of Population Change: Washington	3
	Population Growth: Washington, 1970-2020	
	Net Migration and Traded Sectors Employment Change	
	Net Migration and Population Change	
	Births and the Total Fertility Rate: Washington	
	Aging of Population: Washington	
	Washington Labor Force Growth	
	Population Estimates and Forecasts for Ages 16-24	
	Population Estimates and Forecasts for Ages 25-54	
	Washington Male Labor Force Participation Rates (Age 16-64)	
Figure 2-4b.	Washington Male Labor Force Participation Rate (Age 65+)	20
	Washington Female Labor Force Participation Rates	
Figure 2-6.	Forecast of Washington Labor Force Participation Rates by Sex	23
	Forecast of Washington Labor Force Distribution by Sex	
Figure 2-8.	Age Profile of Washington Labor Force	27
	Washington Total Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment	
Figure 3-2.	Manufacturing Employment Trends: Washington and U.S	35
	Share of Total Washington Non-Agricultural Employment:	
_	Lumber and Paper Industries	
Figure 3-4.	Relative Growth in Construction and Total Non-Agricultural Employment	41
	Relative Growth in Trade and Total Non-Agricultural Employment	
	Employment Growth: Total Non-Agriculture, Services, and Traded Services	
Figure 3-7.	Distribution of Washington Employment by Industry	50
	Total Personal Income: Washington, 1970-2025	
	Annual Change in Total Real Personal Income	
Figure 4-3.	Elderly Population and Retirement-Related Payments	55
	Annual Changes in Real Per Capita Income	
	Ratio of Washington to U.S. Per Capita Income	
Figure 4-6.	Real Per Capita Income Growth	61
Figure 4-7.	Real Average Earnings: Washington vs. U.S.	62



THIS ANNUAL PUBLICATION contains long-term population, labor force, employment, and personal income projections for Washington State. The Office of Financial Management (OFM), Forecasting Division, and the Employment Security Department, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch jointly prepare the labor force and employment projections. The forecast horizon extends from 2000 to 2025. The medium-term forecast for the 2000-2003 period is consistent with the February 2001 Economic and Revenue Forecast Council official state economic forecast.

In contrast to the short-term economic forecasts that focus on assessing business cycle conditions, long-term projections examine demographic trends, structural changes in industries, changes in production factors such as labor supply and capital investment, and technology/productivity advancements.

## Washington Population, Labor Force, Employment, and Income

	Population	Labor Force	Employment	Per Capita Income
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1996\$)
1970	3,413	1,417	1,080	14,999
1980	4,132	1,985	1,609	19,695
1990	4,867	2,538	2,142	23,280
2000	5,894	3,089	2,716	29,376
2010	6,663	3,560	3,205	36,814
2020	7,558	3,857	3,554	44,911
2025		4,014	3,731	49,393

## **Population**

- Washington's population will increase 28 percent by the year 2025. In 2000, about 5.9 million people lived in the state. The state population is expected to increase 1.7 million over the next two decades, reaching 7.6 million by 2025.
- Aging of the population will be the most important demographic phenomenon in the next few decades. In 2000, 11.3 percent of the Washington population was age 65 and over. By 2025, this age group is projected to account for 16.1 percent of total state residents. Most of the increase in the elderly population will take place during the 2010-20 period, when the Baby Boom generation starts entering this age group.

#### **Labor Force**

- Washington's total labor force will increase 30 percent between 2000 and 2025. This amounts to a gain of 925,000 workers, from 3.09 million in 2000 to 4.01 million by the year 2025.
- The labor force participation rate will be lower in 2025 than it is today. In 2000, the labor force participation rate in Washington was 69.3 percent; the rate is projected to decline to 64.4 percent by 2025. Most of the decline will occur during the 2010-25 period when a large portion of the Baby Boom population shifts into the retirement age.
- Washington's labor force will become more diversified in terms of age, sex, racial, and ethnic compositions. By 2025, 47 percent of the state labor force will be female. Workers over age 55 are projected to represent about 21 percent of all state workers by 2025, almost doubling the 12 percent share in 2000. Share of non-white workers in the state labor force is expected to rise from 12 percent in 2000 to 15 percent in 2025.

## **Employment**

- Between 2000 and 2025, 1.01 million non-farm jobs will be added to the Washington economy. Employment in the state is expected to increase at an average annual rate of 1.3 percent over the next 25 years, from 2.72 million in 2000 to 3.73 million by 2025.
- Most of the projected employment growth will be in retail and services industries. From 2000 to 2025, trade and services are predicted to account for about two-thirds of total job increase in the state. Employment in the state's goods-producing sectors (i.e., manufacturing, mining, and construction) will increase at a slow pace due mainly to the anticipated productivity growth. The share of total jobs in these good-producing sectors will drop from 19.0 percent in 2000 to 15.7 percent by 2025.
- Washington's economy will become increasingly diversified. For decades, state employment was highly concentrated in defense, aerospace, and timber industries. Booms and busts in these industries frequently would induce the same conditions in the overall state economy. The growing importance of trade and services employment in the future will lead to more diversified and stable economic growth for Washington.

#### **Personal Income**

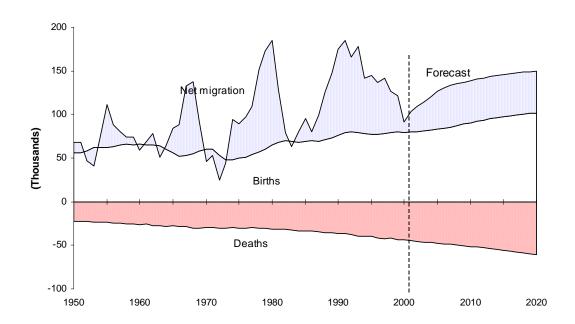
- Washington's total personal income will increase 125 percent between 2000 and 2025. In 1996 dollars, total personal income in Washington amounted to \$173.8 billion in 2000, and is projected to reach \$395.7 billion by 2025.
- Per capita income in Washington will remain above the national average. In 2000, per capita income in the state was estimated at \$29,438, about 3.1 percent above the national average. The projected state per capita income in 2025 will be about two-thirds higher than the 2000 level, and 2.7 percent above the forecasted national average.



THE POPULATION PROJECTION is an integrated part of the long-term forecast for Washington labor force, employment, and income. Population growth contributes to economic growth in the state by making available the labor needed for production, and by expanding the demand for goods and services.

Long-term population growth results from the combined effects of two sources of population change: natural increase and net migration. Natural increase is the excess of births over deaths, and net migration is the difference between in-migration and out-migration.

Figure 1-1
Components of Population Change: Washington



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

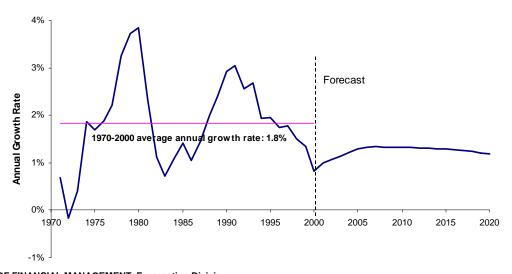
APRIL 2001

Between 1970 and 2000, population in Washington grew 73 percent from 3.4 to 5.9 million, averaging 1.8 percent per year. However, the year-to-year changes fluctuated widely, ranging from a high of 3.8 percent in the 1979-80 period to the 1971-72 low of negative 0.2 percent. Net migration, which responds to changing economic conditions, accounted for most of the ups and downs in the yearly state population figures (Figure 1-1). Change in the number of births over time depends on the growth, age structure, and fertility rate of the population. The long-term trend of births in Washington reflects long, generational waves of socioeconomic change

including the Great Depression, the post World War II baby boom, the baby bust of the 1970s, and the baby boom echo of the 1980s.

Washington population grew steadily in the second half of the 1980s and peaked in 1990. Between 1990 and 1993, the state population growth remained high at a 2.8 percent annual rate. In the rest of the decade, however, the state population growth slowed to 1.6 percent per year. By 2000, about 5.9 million people lived in Washington State. Over the next 20 years, the state population is expected to grow at an annual rate of 1.3 percent (Figure 1-2), reaching a total of 7.6 million by the year 2020. Net migration will continue to play a major role in the state population growth.

Figure 1-2 Population Growth: Washington, 1970-2020



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

## **Net Migration**

People move into or out of Washington for a variety of reasons. Non-economic factors such as movements of military personnel, retirement migration (principally persons over age 65), and pursuing social and natural amenities account for a small portion of net migration. The majority of interstate population movements are due to relative changes in the labor market and economic conditions among the states. An expanding economy and labor market tends to "pull" people into an area. Conversely, a contracting economy and labor market tends to "push" people out of it. Net migration is the difference between out-migration and in-migration. These "push" and "pull" factors have made net migration the major contributor to population change in Washington.

The effects of the "push" and "pull" factors are evident in the historical net migration pattern for Washington State. For example, large population increases due to net migration occurred as a result of rapid economic expansions in Washington during the late 1970s and again in the late

1980s. When the state economy slumped in 1970-73 and 1981-83, net migration dropped sharply; in several of those years there was actually negative net migration.

In the first half of the 1990s, the slowing of economic growth in the state lowered the level of net migration and thus restrained population growth, but not to the same extent as in the past. One major reason is that employment growth in Washington still remained in positive territory during the 1990-91 U.S. recession. This made Washington relatively attractive to those seeking jobs, compared to other states that were losing employment. The relative strength of the Washington economy compared to the rest of the U.S. helped "pull" more job seekers into the state. In addition, California, which experienced a steep decline in employment starting about the same time as the U.S. recession, remained in recession well into 1993. Even though Washington experienced a significant reduction in aerospace jobs beginning in 1991, the overall Washington economy continued to perform much better than the California economy. Between 1990 and 1994, California experienced net out-migration of over 400,000 persons per year. Washington received a significant amount of these Californian out-migrants. These two factors, among others, contributed to fairly high levels of net migration for Washington during the early 1990s, even when the state's economy slowed down significantly.

The picture, however, has reversed in the past five years. From 1995 to 2000, while state economic growth picked up pace, so did the U.S. and the Californian economies. As a result, the level of net migration dropped steadily (Figure 1-3).

10.0% 160 8.0% 120 Traded Sector Employment Change 6.0% Forecast 80 4.0% Net Migration (1,000) 40 2.0% 0.0% 0 -2.0% -40 -4.0% -80 -6.0% Traded Emp. Cha Net Migration -8.0% -120 1995 2000 2005 2015 2020 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 2010

Figure 1-3
Net Migration and Traded Sectors Employment Change

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Change in "traded sector" employment has been the major determinant of the Washington net migration. The traded sectors of the state economy include manufacturing, civilian federal government, and producer services (services purchased by other businesses and government agencies). These industries are considered to be "traded" because the demand for their output exists mostly outside the state. For example, most of the aluminum produced in Washington is fabricated into consumer products by out-of-the-state businesses.

The traded industries usually demand special worker skills that cannot be promptly supplied from the local labor pool. Companies in the traded sectors thus constantly recruit workers, especially professionals, from the national labor market. During expansionary periods, new positions created in the state's traded industries very likely require specialized skills or experience that are in short supply among existing Washington worker pool. For example, to increase development and production to the desired levels, the Boeing Company may require as many as 3,000 additional aerospace engineers in a single year. If this amount of extra engineers is not readily available in the state, they will have to come from elsewhere in the country or even from overseas.

Traded sector jobs also tend to be high wage jobs, which is another incentive to attract workers from outside the state. High wages not only induce people to change jobs, they also help cover the costs of interstate relocation. Cost is a critical concern especially if in-migrating workers need to bring family members with them. In short, when Washington's traded sectors expand, net migration increases, and when these sectors decline net migration falls.

Net migration has a significant impact on the size of the state labor force. Since a majority of inmigration to Washington is associated with employment opportunities, these economic migrants tend to be active labor market participants for a long span of time, therefore contributing to the growth of the Washington labor force. Also, gross (i.e., in- plus out-) flow of migration is generally 5 to 10 times the magnitude of net migration; this is the reason why many public and private business operations (e.g., issuance of driver's license, rental housing, etc.) are strongly affected by the level of net migration.

## **Forecast of Net Migration**

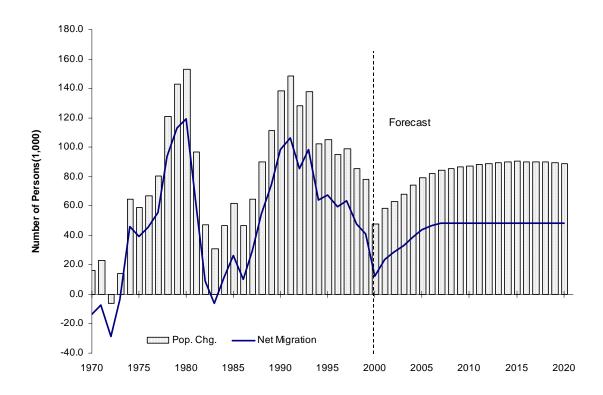
The methodology used to forecast net migration includes two steps. First, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the Employment Security Department (ESD) jointly develop a forecast of employment for each of the traded sectors. This initial forecast is based on a system of equations determining employment in each of the 17 manufacturing sectors, the federal civilian sector, and the producer services sector. The producer services sector consists of business services, legal services, engineering, accounting, research, management, and related services.

Next, a single equation model is used which treats Washington net migration as a function of traded sector job growth within the state relative to economic conditions in the rest of the country and California. The specific factors included in the model to determine levels of Washington net migration are:

- The percentage change in Washington's traded sector employment relative to the percentage change in traded sector employment in the U.S. (The U.S. forecast is from Data Resources Incorporated [DRI] Summer 2000 long-term trend forecast.)
- The percentage change in Washington's traded sector employment relative to the percentage change in traded sector employment in California. (The California forecast was obtained from the DRI's Regional Services.)
- The national unemployment rate.

Net migration for Washington over the next 2 decades is predicted to maintain an average of about 44,400 persons per year, slightly below the historical average of 44,700 per year between 1970 and 2000. The level of net migration, however, varies over the forecast period. Net migration dipped to 12,200 in 1999-2000, and is predicted to gradually increase to 44,000 by the year 2005, and then settle on a stable, long-term level of around 48,100 per year through 2020. (Population statistics, including net migration, are shown in Table 1-1 at the end of this chapter.)

Figure 1-4 **Net Migration and Population Change** 



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

The main reason that Washington's net migration is expected to sustain at the historical average is that Washington's traded sectors are expected to maintain healthier growth than their national

counterparts over the forecast period. For example, the forecast calls for manufacturing employment to grow modestly in Washington over the next 20 years, whereas manufacturing employment in the U.S. is projected to gradually decline.

The net migration forecast, once completed, is incorporated in the demographic model for the long-term projection of state total population.

#### **Natural Increase**

Natural increase is the second component of population growth. Natural changes include additions to the population through births, and reductions from the population due to deaths. The state's natural population increase is forecast to average 38,600 a year between 2000 and 2020.

The total fertility rate in Washington, which represents the estimated average number of births to women in their childbearing years, is expected to reach and remain at a replacement level of 2.1 births per woman through the end of the forecast period (Figure 1-5). This is somewhat above the all-time low of 1.6 births per woman in 1933, but far below the peak of 3.7 births per woman in 1957. The fertility rate is not expected to rise significantly, in part because of the increasing labor force participation rate for women of childbearing age. (See next chapter.) Also, compared to earlier generations, women are marrying later, having children later, are more likely to live independently, and are spending more time on education. These factors, in combination with technological advancements in birth control, tend to lower the fertility rate.

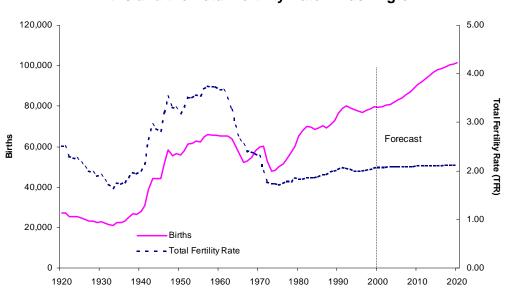


Figure 1-5
Births and the Total Fertility Rate: Washington

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

While the fertility rate is expected to remain fairly stable throughout the forecast period, the number of women of childbearing age is predicted to grow steadily. As a result, the annual number of births in Washington is expected to increase from 79,500 in 1999-2000 to about 101,500 in 2019-20.

By definition, the labor force includes only those age 16 and older. Births have a delayed effect on labor force growth, as individuals born today will be potential members of the labor force in 16 years. This implies that recent population changes due to births will affect the labor force in the latter years of the forecast period. In another word, anyone born in 1995 will be old enough to enter the labor force in 2011. Similarly, births over the past 16 years are closely associated with the labor force growth in the 2000-2016 period. Although the annual number of births in Washington during the early 1970s dropped to less than 50,000 for the first time in 25 years, the number of births rebounded to 70,100 in 1982. By 1990 the annual number of births in the state had increased to 76,400. As explained above, the increased births in the 1980s and 1990s will contribute to the growth of the state workforce over the next two decades.

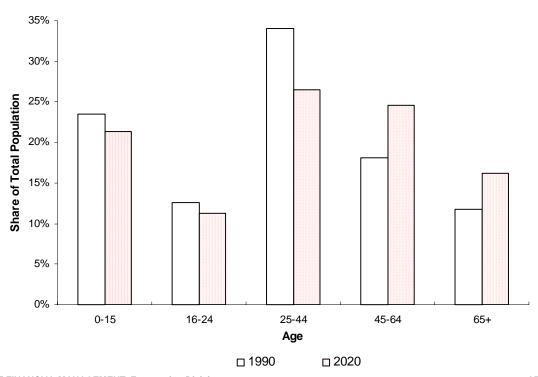
Mortality, the other component of natural increase, will also rise throughout the forecast period. Life expectancy increased rapidly between 1920 and 1960 and continued to improve through the 1980s, albeit at a much slower pace. Since a lot of the improvements have been achieved in the prevention of infant deaths, future substantial improvement in life expectancy at birth is unlikely.

The forecast calls for both male and female life expectancy in Washington to continue to improve at a slow but steady rate. As in the nation as a whole, the state's population will be aging. Higher mortality rates associated with an aging population will more than offset the improving life expectancy, leading to rising aggregate death rates. The proportion of all deaths due to deaths in the elderly population will increase during the forecast period. This suggests that mortality will not have a major impact on labor force growth in the forecast period, because most of the deaths will occur at ages when individuals are unlikely to be in the labor force.

Over the next few decades, aging of the population, both in the state and throughout the nation, will be a profound demographic phenomenon. In Washington State, people 65 years of age and older will account for a growing share of population, from 11.3 percent in 2000 to 16.1 percent in 2020 (Figure 1-6). The trend will have widespread economic and public policy implications ranging from the expanding demand for personal and health services at the local level to increasing pressure on the federal Social Security and medical insurance programs.

Table 1-1 on page 11 shows the historical and projected Washington population trend, and the components of population change.

Figure 1-6
Aging of Population: Washington



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

Table 1-1

Components of Population Change: 1980 – 2020

Components of Change Population Population Change **Births** Deaths Natural **Net Migration** End of Period Period Number Number Rate \* Number Rate \* Increase Number Rate \* 1980-1981 4,229,300 96,900 2.30 68,200 16.30 31,800 7.60 36,300 60,600 14.50 38,300 8,900 1981-1982 4,276,500 47,300 1.12 70,100 16.48 31,700 7.45 2.09 1982-1983 4,307,200 16.19 32,500 7.57 36,900 -6,200 30,700 0.72 69,500 -1.441983-1984 4,354,100 46,800 1.09 68,500 15.82 33,200 7.67 35,200 11,600 2.68 1984-1985 4,415,800 61,700 1.42 15.76 7.75 35,100 26,600 69,100 34,000 6.07 1985-1986 4,462,200 46,400 1.05 70,200 15.81 34,000 7.66 36,200 10,200 2.30 1986-1987 4,527,100 64,900 1.45 69,300 15.42 34,400 7.65 34,900 30,000 6.67 1987-1988 4,616,900 89,800 1.98 71,000 15.53 36,000 7.87 35,000 54,800 11.99 1988-1989 4,728,100 111,200 2.41 73,000 15.62 36,000 7.70 37,000 74,200 15.88 1989-1990 4,866,700 138,600 2.93 76,400 15.93 36,200 7.55 40,100 98,500 20.53 1990-1991 5,015,300 148,600 3.05 79,100 16.00 36,600 7.40 42,500 106,100 21.47 1991-1992 85,200 5,143,600 128,300 2.56 80,200 15.80 37,200 7.32 43,000 16.77 1992-1993 5,281,600 138,100 2.68 79,100 39,400 7.55 39,700 98,300 15.17 18.86 1993-1994 102,500 1.94 78,200 39,500 5,384,100 14.66 7.41 38,700 63,800 11.97 1994-1995 5,489,100 105,000 1.95 7.35 37,500 77,500 14.25 40,000 67,500 12.41 13.91 1995-1996 95,200 1.74 77,000 7.43 5,584,300 41,200 35,800 59,400 10.73 1996-1997 98,900 1.77 78,000 42,600 7.57 35,400 63,500 5,683,300 13.85 11.28 1997-1998 5,768,500 85,200 1.50 78,800 13.77 41,600 7.26 37,200 48,000 8.38 1998-2000 5,846,400 77,900 1.35 79,800 13.73 43,100 7.43 36,700 41,300 7.11 2000-2000 5,894,100 47,700 0.82 79,500 44,000 7.50 35,500 12,200 2.08 13.55 2000-2001 5,952,700 58,600 0.99 79,900 13.49 45,000 7.59 34,900 23,700 4.00 63,200 1.06 13.42 2001-2002 6,016,000 80,300 45,700 7.63 34,600 28,600 4.77 2002-2003 6,083,900 67,900 1.13 81,000 13.39 46,200 7.63 34,800 33,100 5.47 6,157,900 2003-2004 74,000 1.22 81,900 13.38 46,900 35,000 39,000 7.66 6.37 79,300 1.29 2004-2005 6,237,200 83,000 13.39 47,700 7.69 35,300 44,000 7.10 7.70 7.41 2005-2006 6,319,500 82,300 1.32 84,200 13.40 48,400 35,800 46,500 49,100 36,400 7.56 2006-2007 6,404,100 84,600 1.34 85,500 13.45 7.72 48,100 2007-2008 6,489,500 85,400 1.33 87,100 13.51 49,800 7.73 37,300 48,100 7.46 2008-2009 6,575,800 86,400 1.33 88,800 13.59 50,500 7.73 38,300 48,100 7.36 2009-2010 87,300 1.33 51,300 7.74 39,200 48,100 6,663,100 90,500 13.66 7.27 2010-2011 6,751,200 88,000 1.32 92,000 13.72 52,100 7.77 39,900 48,100 7.17 2011-2012 6,840,000 88,800 1.32 93,600 13.78 52,900 7.79 40,700 48,100 7.08 2012-2013 6,929,500 89,500 1.31 95,200 13.83 53,800 7.81 41,400 48,100 6.99 2013-2014 7,019,600 90,100 1.30 96,700 13.86 54,700 7.84 42,000 48,100 6.90 7,109,900 90,300 1.29 2014-2015 97,800 13.84 55,600 7.87 42,200 48,100 6.81 6.72 2015-2016 7,200,100 90,200 1.27 98,700 13.80 56,600 7.91 42,100 48,100 2016-2017 7,290,100 90,000 1.25 99,500 13.73 57,600 7.95 41,900 48,100 6.64 2017-2018 7,379,900 89,700 1.23 100,300 58,600 7.99 41,700 48,100 6.56 13.67 7,469,200 59,800 2018-2019 89,300 1.21 101,000 13.60 8.05 41,200 48,100 6.48 2019-2020 7,557,800 88,700 1.19 101,500 13.51 60,900 8.11 40,600 48,100 6.40 1980-1990 734,300 705,300 339,800 365,000 369,200 1990-2000 1,027,400 787,200 405,200 382,000 645,300 2000-2010 769,000 842,200 480,600 361,600 407,300 2010-2020 894,600 976,300 562,600 413,700 481,000 955.900 1995-2020 2,068,500 2,211,600 1,255,700 1,112,700

SOURCES: Forecasts of the State Population: January 2001 Revised, Office of Financial Management, January 2001.

<sup>\*</sup> Rates are calculated per 1.000-midpoint population.

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



BETWEEN 1970 AND 2000, total labor force\* in Washington more than doubled from 1.42 million to 3.1 million. The state is expected to gain an additional one million workers in the following 25 years and, by the year 2025, have a workforce of 4.1 million. The forecast represents a 1.2 percent average annual growth rate for the state labor force from 2000 to 2025, less than half the pace of the 2.7 percent annual growth during the 1970-2000 period.

In the first half of the 1990s, labor force in the state grew 2.1 percent per year. The growth accelerated to a 2.6 percent annual rate in the 1995-98 period, but then fell to 0.9 percent during the last two years of the decade. The forecast for the next five years, from 2000 to 2005, calls for a moderate recovery of annual growth to 1.5 percent.

4.50 | 4.00 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 3.00 | 2.54 | 3.09 | 3.09 | 3.09 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.

Figure 2-1
Washington Labor Force Growth

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

1980

1970

**APRIL 2001** 

1990

2000

2010

2025

<sup>\*</sup>As used in this report, the term "labor force" refers to the *civilian non-institutional labor force*, which is composed of individuals age 16 or over who are currently employed (either part-time or full-time) or who are actively seeking employment. Individuals who are in nursing homes, prison, or the military (referred to as the institutional population) are not considered to be either in the civilian labor force or part of the base population from which the labor force is drawn. Other individuals who are not in the civilian labor force are those who are not employed *and* not seeking employment. Common reasons for not being in the labor force include retirement, ill health or injury, attending school, or doing housework at home.

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In the next 25 years, Washington's labor force growth will decelerate. The state's workforce is expected to increase at a 1.4 percent annual rate from 2000 to 2010, after which the growth rate will decline considerably to an annual average of 0.8 percent between 2010 and 2025.

The slowdown in labor force growth is a national phenomenon related to the aging of the population. Since labor is a critical factor of production, the slowdown in labor force growth will dampen the growth of the economy. This is a particularly important concern because, after 2010, the baby boom generation will start entering retirement en masse and drawing Social Security and Medicare benefits. The quickly growing retiree and elderly population will have to be supported by a labor force that increases relatively slowly. Besides the ongoing Social Security reform efforts, it is anticipated that future productivity increases will accelerate to offset the drag exerted by the slowing labor force growth.

The most demanded labor skills in the future will be those required by growth industries such as information processing and telecommunication, automated tools and equipment, and knowledge-based service businesses. In addition, as the economy becomes more dynamic, future labor market participants need to be able to promptly adapt to the quick-changing working environment. Also, as firms constantly restructure to improve operating efficiency and market competitiveness, future workers should anticipate job changes many times in their careers.

On the other hand, there will be increasing demand for "local services" that produce job opportunities for low- or moderate-skilled workers. Demand for these services will be stimulated by the increasing number of multi-earner households and the aging of the baby boomers. These services are much less susceptible to the competition of foreign imports.

The future labor force will be more diversified. In 2025, non-white workers will account for 15.2 percent of total labor force in Washington, compared to the 8.5 percent share in 1990. By 2025, 9.1 percent of the state's workforce will be Hispanic, more than double the level of 3.7 percent in 1990. In addition, over the next two-and-a-half decades, female labor force in the state will increase 31.6 percent, compared to the 28.5 percent growth for male workers.

The size and composition of the Washington labor force is determined by three major factors:

- (1) Natural population changes -- aging, births, and deaths.
- (2) Net-migration -- difference in the number of persons entering and leaving the state.
- (3) Labor force participation rates -- proportion of people 16 years of age and older who are employed or seeking employment.

The following sections explore the future changes of these factors and their implications in shaping the state's workforce.

## **Population Change and Labor Force Growth**

Population growth in the state directly contributes to its labor pool. From 1970 to 2000, the number of persons 16 years old and over grew at an annual rate of 2.2 percent in Washington, significantly higher than the 1.3 percent annual rate for the nation. As a result, the state's labor force grew 2.6 percent per year between 1970 and 2000, far outpacing the 1.8 percent average growth rate for the U.S. during the same period.

Population growth in the state is expected to slow to 1.3 percent per year between 2000 and 2025; similar growth rate is projected for the Washington labor force during the period. The forecasted growth for the state's labor force is still much higher than the projected 0.8 percent annual increase for the nation as a whole.

People in the 16 to 24 age group account for a majority of new labor market entrants. In Washington State, slow growth of youth population in the 1980s and early 1990s will lead to a slowdown in the addition of new workers to the state's labor pool in the near term. The state's population in this age cohort actually declined throughout the decade of the 1980s (Figure 2-2), due to lower birth rates beginning in the mid-1960s. Consequently, in 1990 this age group accounted for only 16.6 percent of the state labor force, substantially lower than the 35.0 percent share in 1980.

Starting in the early 1990s, the 16-24 population began to grow again, although very slowly. Population growth in this age group accelerated in the second half of the 1990s and, by the turn of the century, approached the high growth reached in the 1970s. Starting in the late 2000s, growth of this age group in the state will once again decline.

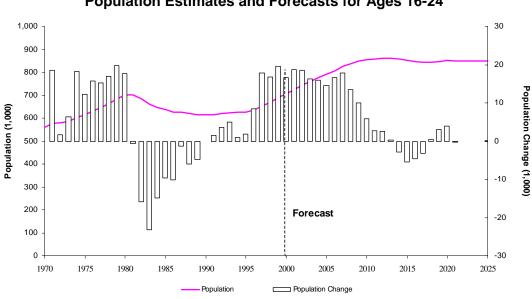


Figure 2-2
Population Estimates and Forecasts for Ages 16-24

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

Shifting age structure is a major factor leading to the anticipated slowdown in the growth of the Washington labor force. In the next 25 years, a large portion of the projected population growth will occur in the age groups with low labor force participation rates, thus depressing total labor force participation and workforce growth. The state's 25 to 54 year old population, the most active labor force participants, grew an average of 2.7 percent, or 48,600 persons, per year between 1970 and 2000. In contrast, population growth in this age group will drop substantially to an annual average of 14,300 persons over the forecast period.

The forecast shows that annual growth rate of the 25 to 54 age group in the state will drop to 0.5 percent over the next two-and-a-half decades, far below the growth rates of 2.9 percent and 2.0 percent per year in the 1980s and the 1990s, respectively (Figure 2-3).

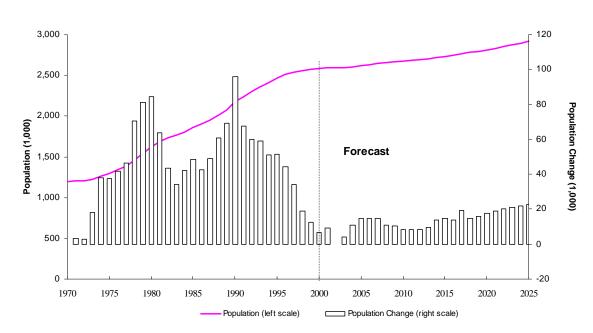


Figure 2-3
Population Estimates and Forecasts for Ages 25-54

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

#### Migration

Migration affects the labor force in two ways: first, it is an important contributor to population change, and thus labor force growth; second, most of the migrants are young workers with a long-term attachment to the labor force. In the past 25 years, net migration in the state averaged 48,200 per year, accounting for about 60 percent of state yearly population growth. Over the forecast horizon, net migration is expected to remain at a level compatible with historical average, due mainly to continued strengths in the state's manufacturing and other traded sector jobs:

- Manufacturing employment in Washington is projected to grow slightly, compared to the forecasted decline in the U.S. Manufacturing jobs offer above-average wages and support a variety of other jobs in the economy. Strength in the state's manufacturing sector will help stimulate the demand for labor and thus labor-related in-migration.
- Business services will continue to grow at a healthy pace, although not at the same rapid rate as in the late 1980s and the 1990s. Most of the fast-growing business services industries recruit from national or international labor pools; thus, their growth is expected to attract labor from outside the state.
- There has been an increasing number of migrants over age 65 to Washington. Migration decisions of senior citizens are mainly determined by quality of life, amenities, and services available at the destination places. Senior migrants affect the state labor market differently than job-related migrants. On one hand, they are not competing for job opportunities; on the other hand, their assets and incomes contribute to the local economy and the demand for labor. Senior citizens are intensive users of the public and private services, thus stimulating employment growth in these sectors. Nationwide, the proportion of the population that is retired or over age 65 is expected to increase significantly throughout the forecast period, suggesting that a growing portion of in-migrants will be retired or over age 65.

As a result of the aforementioned economic and non-economic forces, net-migration between 2000 and 2025 will total 1.13 million persons, averaging about 45,200 per year, slightly below the 49,600 annual average of the past 30 years.

## **Changes in Labor Force Participation**

Labor force participation rates in Washington State historically have been higher than the national average, due in large part to a higher concentration of young people who are active labor market participants. From 1970 to 1995, the state's aggregate labor force participation rate increased from 61.5 percent to 68.6 percent. During this period, the male labor force participation rate gradually declined, while the female labor force participation rate rose considerably. By 2025, the labor force participation rate in the state is projected to decline to 64.4 percent. Most of the drop will take place in the last decade of the forecast period.

The projected decline in labor force participation is due mainly to changes in age composition of the future population. Basically, for both males and females, labor force participation is highest between the ages of 20 and 54; it is somewhat lower for ages 16 to 19 and ages 55 to 64, and is very low for persons in retirement age of 65 and over. Population growth that occurs in age groups with low labor force participation (e.g., age 65 and over) will not increase the labor force as much as the growth in the high-participation age groups (e.g., age 35 to 44). The changing age structure over time is a major factor that lowers the aggregate labor force participation rate after 2010.

From 2010 to 2025, the proportion of the state population in the older age groups will increase substantially. The elderly people (age 65+) as a share of the total state population will increase

from 12.3 percent in 2010 to 16.2 percent in 2025. This has a dampening effect on the labor force growth since the elderly have much lower labor force participation rates. If the year 2025 population is assumed to have the same age structure as in 2010, the aggregate labor force participation rate for that year would be 69.9 percent, rather than the projected 64.4 percent. In other words, aging of the population alone depresses the state labor force participation rate by 5.5 percentage points.

Table 2-1 shows a comparison of the 1990 Washington labor force and labor force participation rates by age and sex, with the corresponding forecast for 2025.

Table 2-1
Washington Labor Force by Age and Sex, 1990 and 2025

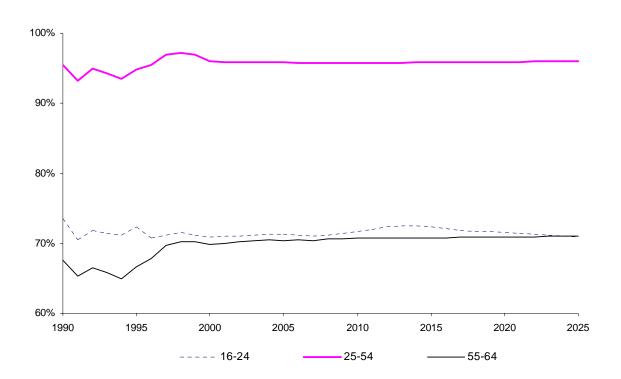
	Labor Force				Labor Ford	ce Participa	tion Rate
			1990-20	25			1990-2025
Age	1990	2025	Net Additions	Percent Change	1990	2025	Percentage Pt. Difference
All							
16-24	420,823	568,239	146,098	34.6%	71.7%	68.8%	-2.9
25-54	1,845,215	2,606,022	761,884	41.3%	86.7%	87.9%	1.3
55-64	213,951	647,936	434,170	203.1%	56.4%	63.9%	7.5
65+	57,465	191,379	133,969	233.4%	10.5%	13.4%	2.8
Total	2,537,454	4,013,575	1,476,121	58.2%	69.7%	64.4%	-5.3
Male							
16-24	214,184	283,823	68,966	32.1%	73.4%	69.0%	-4.4
25-54	1,005,591	1,388,402	383,284	38.1%	95.4%	93.1%	-2.3
55-64	124,444	346,973	222,637	179.1%	67.5%	68.8%	1.3
65+	33,834	119,081	85,279	252.3%	14.5%	18.0%	3.6
Total Male	1,378,053	2,138,280	760,165	55.2%	78.1%	69.7%	-8.4
Female							
16-24	207,283	284,415	77,132	37.2%	69.9%	68.5%	-1.4
25-54	839,020	1,217,620	378,600	45.1%	78.1%	82.7%	4.6
55-64	89,429	300,962	211,533	236.5%	45.8%	59.0%	13.2
65+	23,608	72,298	48,690	206.2%	7.6%	9.4%	1.8
Total Female	1,159,340	1,875,295	715,956	61.8%	61.8%	59.2%	-2.6

#### **Male Labor Force Participation**

The total male labor force participation rate has declined slightly in the past two decades, due primarily to early retirements. Improved retirement options have led to a decline in the labor force participation rates of older men. Generous public and private pension systems and social insurance programs (Social Security, Medicare, and employer-provided health insurance), as well as increases in the wealth and asset incomes of senior citizens have been the contributing factors for choosing early retirement. Nationally, the labor force participation rate of males age 55 to 64 years old dropped from 83.0 percent in 1970 to 67.3 percent in 2000.

However, the labor force participation rate of those over age 55 is expected to level off and rise slightly over the forecast period. Many people over age 55, especially those in the 56 to 64 age group, will choose to work longer because they lack the economic resources necessary to maintain a desired life style. This is especially the case considering possible retrenchments in Social Security and Medicare benefits. A longer life expectancy also contributes to the need to extend working years. These assumptions have been taken into account in the present labor force forecasts for the state. The state labor force participation rate of males between 55 and 64 years of age is projected to rise from 67.5 percent in 1990 to 68.8 percent by 2025 (Figure 2-4). The changing racial mix of the labor force -- i.e. a higher proportion of the male population will be non-whites with lower labor market attachment -- has some negative effect on the aggregate male labor force participation rate.

Figure 2-4a
Washington Male Labor Force Participation Rates (Age 16-64)

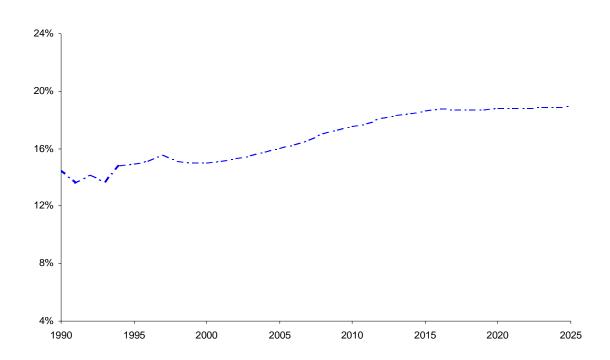


OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

Educational attainment is another important reason why an increase in the labor force participation rate of those over age 65 is anticipated (Figure 2-4b). Table 2-2 shows that education achievement is a very significant factor in determining the working status of the elderly. Since people in the 35 to 39 age group in 1990 are three decades removed from the 65 to 69 age cohort in 2020, their educational profile provides a close approximation to the educational achievement of those age 65 to 69 in 2020. Table 2-2 shows that future elderly people will have much higher educational levels than those in the same age group in 1990, suggesting a higher labor force participation rate.

Figure 2-4b
Washington Male Labor Force Participation Rate (Age 65+)



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

APRIL 2001

Higher educational levels make it easier for older persons to stay in the labor force. Well-educated persons are more likely in white-collar jobs that have less demand for physical strength, better compensation, and more flexible working schedules than those less educated.

Business cycles also exert significant influence on labor force participation behavior. The male labor force participation rate was affected more than the female rate by the 1990-91 national recession. The downsizing and cost-cutting operations in many large corporations in the early 1990s caused some people to drop out of the labor market entirely and discouraged others from entering the labor market.

Table 2-2
Elderly Labor Force Participation and Education: Washington, 1990

	Age 65-69	Share of	Share of
Schooling	Labor Force	Age 65-69	Age 35-39
Completed	Participation Rate	Population	Population
1-9 grades	11.1%	11.9%	3.1%
10-12 grades	14.0%	13.4%	5.1%
High school graduate	16.4%	34.2%	23.7%
Some college/Associate	22.5%	24.7%	39.6%
BA and higher	27.4%	15.7%	28.5%
Total	18.7%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: 1990 Census PUMS data file.

#### **Female Labor Force Participation**

One of the most significant labor market phenomena in the twentieth century is the increase of women in the workforce. Nationwide, the female labor force participation rate increased from 33.8 percent in 1950 to 57.5 percent in 1990, then reached 60.2 percent in 2000. As a result, the gap between male and female labor force participation rates has narrowed substantially over the past four decades. In 1950, the male labor force participation rate was 53 percentage points above the female rate; by 2000, the gap shrank to 15 percentage points.

Key factors contributing to the trend of rising female labor force participation include increasing levels of education, decisions to delay marriage and childbearing, changing gender roles, availability of market substitutes for housework, and changing technologies that reduce the demand for physical labor. Declining real wages through the past three decades also have contributed: in many households, a second income was needed when the real earnings from the male householders declined.

The shifting of female roles from an emphasis on house keeping to paid jobs outside the home will continue to bring more women into the labor force. Continuing progress in obtaining formal education certainly is going to increase female participation in the labor market. Economic pressures will also continue to drive women into the market workforce, especially for families with single mothers.

Indeed, the general orientation toward work and overall attachment to the labor force are already roughly comparable for younger men and women. Furthermore, as the demographic forces result in slower labor force growth in the next few decades, employers will increasingly look to women as an important source of labor.

On the other hand, although the long-term trend of rising female participation in the labor force is expected to continue, the increase will slow down. Actually, the pace of increase in female labor force participation began to slow considerably in the mid-1980s as the female rates approached

those of males. Gender differences still persist between men and women in terms of perceived parenting and family responsibilities. Numerous studies have found that women still bear a disproportionate share of childrearing and housework responsibilities in most families. As a result, woman workers will still experience more frequent and longer spells of time away from jobs than men. This means that female labor force participation is not likely to reach the male rates in the near future. All these considerations are incorporated in the forecast of female labor force participation rates (Figure 2-5).

100% 80% 60% 40% 20% 0% 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020 \_ - \_ - 16-24 25-54 55-64

Figure 2-5
Washington Female Labor Force Participation Rates

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

In summary, the trend of rising female labor force participation will continue, although at a slower pace than in the previous three decades. In Washington State, the overall participation rate of women in the workforce is expected to increase from 61.8 percent in 1990 to 63.5 percent in 2010; then, as a large proportion of the population moves into the age groups with low labor attachment, the rate will decline to 59.2 percent by the year 2025.

The changes in male and female labor force participation rates in the state resulted in is a slight increase from 68.6 percent in 1995 to 69.3 percent in 2000, and then a steady decline to 64.4 percent by 2025.

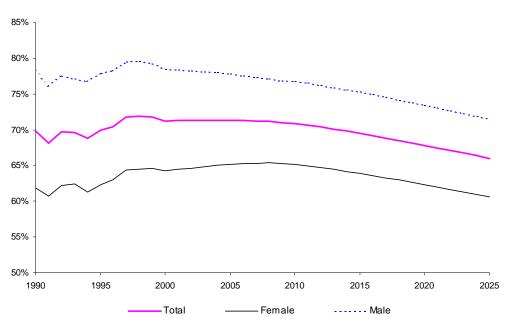


Figure 2-6
Forecast of Washington Labor Force Participation Rates by Sex

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

## **Forecast of Total Labor Force**

The projected changes in labor force participation rates, net migration, natural population increase, and aging of the population will result in a downward trend for the state's labor force growth. Between 1990 and 2000, the Washington labor force grew by 22 percent, representing an average annual growth rate of 2.0 percent. This rate is significantly lower than the 3.0 percent growth per year experienced in the previous two decades. In the decade from 2000 to 2010, the state's labor force growth will slow to 1.4 percent per year, or 15.1 percent total growth for the decade. Looking further into the future, the state's labor force growth is expected to significantly decelerate between 2010 and 2025 as the Baby Boom generation reaches retirement age, growing 12.7 percent during the period, or at an annual rate of 0.8 percent (Table 2-3).

While the Washington labor force will increase at a relatively slow pace over the next 25 years, the growth of the U.S. labor force is expected to be even slower. The major reason for the difference between Washington and U.S. labor force growth is population growth. Between 2000 and 2025, the Washington's population 16 years old and over is forecasted to grow at an annual average rate of 1.4 percent, while the comparable population group for the nation is projected to increase only 0.9 percent per year. The difference is mainly attributed to the state's continuing ability to attract migrants.

Table 2-3
Washington Labor Force Change

	Changes in Labor Force						
Decade	Number (1,000s)	Percent Change (%)	Average Annual Growth (%)				
1950-1960	149.8	15.9	5.5				
1960-1970	320.1	29.4	2.6				
1970-1980	567.5	40.0	3.4				
1980-1990	552.9	27.9	2.5				
Forecast							
1990-2000	551.2	21.7	2.0				
2000-2010	471.4	15.3	1.4				
2010-2025	453.5	12.7	0.8				

Washington labor force participation rates historically have been slightly above national rates, a tendency which is expected to continue. Table 2-4 provides labor force estimates for Washington between 1970 and 1995, and forecasts through 2025.

## The Changing Profile: Aging, Female, and Non-White Workforce

Changes in labor force participation, combined with demographic changes (births, deaths, aging, and migration), will alter the profile of the Washington labor force. The forecast shows that the state workforce will become more and more diversified in terms of age composition, sex, and racial mixes. These trends parallel those projected for the nation's workforce.

## **Higher Proportion of Women in the Labor Force**

Over the forecast period, the slow but steady increases in labor force participation by women, combined with a gradual decline in male labor force participation, will increase the female share of the total labor force. In 1990, women represented 45.7 percent of the labor force; by 2025 their share will rise to 46.7 percent (Figure 2-7). Women will comprise nearly half of "net additions" to the labor force between 1990 and 2025. "Net additions" is the difference between new entrants to the labor force and those who leave the labor force.

The increasing importance of women as a source of labor will motivate employers to provide benefit programs that accommodate the needs of female workers. Some desirable employee benefits include on-site childcare, flexible work schedules, order and delivery of household goods such as groceries, dry cleaning of clothes, etc. For employers, these work-life benefit programs will be critical to their ability to attract qualified employees, and to raising the productivity of their female workers.

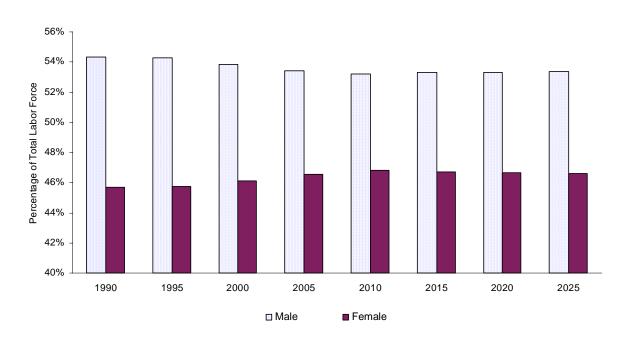


Figure 2-7
Forecast of Washington Labor Force Distribution by Sex

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

## **Aging of Labor Force**

Between 2000 and 2025, the number of Washington workers over 55 years old will increase by about 128 percent, while those aged 16 to 54 will increase by only 17 percent. Consequently, the age profile of the state labor force in 2025 will be very different from that in 1990 (Figure 2-8). Older persons (55 years old and over) in the labor force are projected to represent about 21 percent of all workers in 2025, almost doubling the 12 percent share in 2000.

As part of the aging process, the workforce will go through an interim "middle-aging" phase. Around the year 2000, middle-aged workers — those 35 to 54 years old — constituted about 52 percent of the labor force, significantly above the 45 percent share just a decade ago. A byproduct of the middle aging of the labor force is generational crowding or "mid-career crunch." The sharp rise of these middle-age workers will lead to an abundant supply of qualified persons for mid-career promotional opportunities. And, in the later periods of the forecast horizon, prolonged staying of top-level, older workers may diminish the prospects of middle-age employees looking for career advancements. One likely result may be increasing job or career changes in the future years.

Table 2-4
Washington Labor Force: Historical and Forecast

washington Labor Force. Thistorical and Forecast					1.	obor Eo	roo					
		Civilian No	n-Institutional	Population		Labor Force			Labor Force Participation Rate			
Year	Total Population	Total 16 & Over	Male 16 & Over	Female 16 & Over	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female		
1970	3,413,200	2,303,700	1,101,000	1,202,700	1,417,100	na	na	61.5	na	na		
1971	3,436,300	2,332,800	1,116,700	1,216,100	1,401,100	na	na	60.1	na	na		
1972	3,430,300	2,365,600	1,136,400	1,229,300	1,433,600	na	na	60.6	na	na		
1973	3,444,300	2,410,500	1,157,600	1,252,900	1,483,800	na	na	61.6	na	na		
1974	3,508,700	2,476,800	1,189,400	1,287,400	1,528,700	na	na	61.7	na	na		
1975	3,567,900	2,541,700	1,222,600	1,319,100	1,562,200	942,200	620,000	61.5	77.1	47.0		
1976	3,634,900	2,617,300	1,259,700	1,357,600	1,621,400	966,100	655,300	61.9	76.7	48.3		
1977	3,715,400	2,706,200	1,304,300	1,401,900	1,692,300	1,003,500	688,900	62.5	76.9	49.1		
1978	3,836,200	2,821,100	1,363,500	1,457,600	1,807,800	1,067,000	740,800	64.1	78.3	50.8		
1979	3,979,200	2,946,900	1,426,700	1,520,200	1,935,800	1,140,800	795,000	65.7	0.08	52.3		
1980	4,132,200	3,061,000	1,479,700	1,581,200	1,984,600	1,157,200	827,400	64.8	78.2	52.3		
1981	4,229,300	3,128,100	1,511,000	1,617,100	1,996,800	1,158,300	838,500	63.8	76.7	51.9		
1982	4,276,500	3,166,500	1,530,300	1,636,100	2,024,500	1,160,700	863,700	63.9	75.8	52.8		
1983	4,307,200	3,193,200	1,541,600	1,651,600	2,068,400	1,174,300	894,100	64.8	76.2	54.1		
1984	4,354,100	3,234,100	1,561,100	1,672,900	2,050,400	1,169,300	881,100	63.4	74.9	52.7		
1985	4,415,800	3,282,600	1,584,800	1,697,900	2,090,400	1,181,800	908,600	63.7	74.6	53.5		
1986	4,462,200	3,330,300	1,608,900	1,721,400	2,198,500	1,220,700	977,800	66.0	75.9	56.8		
1987	4,527,100	3,388,600	1,637,100	1,751,500	2,257,500	1,234,400	1,023,200	66.6	75.4	58.4		
1988	4,616,900	3,454,300	1,667,800	1,786,500	2,315,800	1,247,100	1,068,700	67.0	74.8	59.8		
1989	4,728,100	3,537,000	1,708,400	1,828,600	2,450,900	1,305,200	1,115,400	69.3	79.4	59.9		
1990	4,866,700	3,636,200	1,761,300	1,874,900	2,537,500	1,378,100	1,159,400	69.8	78.2	61.8		
1991	5,015,300	3,740,200	1,813,700	1,926,500	2,535,100	1,372,800	1,162,300	67.8	75.7	60.3		
1992	5,143,600	3,834,300	1,861,900	1,972,400	2,648,200	1,431,900	1,216,200	69.1	76.9	61.7		
1993	5,281,600	3,932,400	1,912,800	2,019,600	2,701,200	1,456,400	1,244,800	68.7	76.1	61.6		
1994	5,384,100	4,011,500	1,952,600	2,059,000	2,716,400	1,474,800	1,241,600	67.7	75.5	60.3		
1995	5,489,100	4,093,700	1,993,700	2,100,000	2,810,100	1,525,500	1,284,600	68.6	76.5	61.2		
Foreca		1			1			ı				
2000	5,894,121	4,456,300	2,177,600	2,278,600	3,088,700	1,664,000	1,424,700	69.3	76.4	62.5		
2005	6,237,200	4,778,500	2,340,200	2,438,300	3,322,000	1,775,100	1,546,900	69.5	75.9	63.4		
2010	6,663,100	5,156,100	2,530,600	2,625,500	3,560,100	1,893,700	1,666,400	69.0	74.8	63.5		
2015	7,109,900	5,496,800	2,701,800	2,795,000	3,723,400	1,982,400	1,741,000	67.7	73.4	62.3		
2025	7,557,800	5,831,000	2,867,900	2,963,100	3,856,700	2,054,000	1,802,600	66.1	71.6	60.8		
2025		6,234,700	3,067,500	3,167,100	4,013,600	2,138,300	1,875,300	64.4	69.7	59.2		

#### Notes:

Total population is based on the November 2000 official Office of Financial Management population estimates and forecasts.

Estimates/forecasts of civilian non-institutional population, labor force, and labor force participation rate are "annual average" measurements. Projection of the civilian non-institutional population is based on 1990 proportion of the male and female Washington population participating in the military or residing in prisons, nursing homes, and other institutions.

Labor force participation rates represent the proportion of the civilian non-institutional population that is employed or unemployed based on federal Bureau of Labor Statistics definitions.

Total population estimates and forecasts are for April 1 of each year.

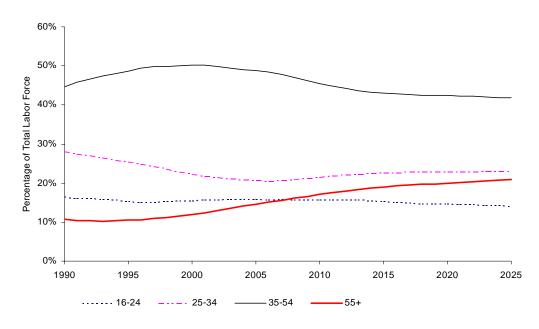


Figure 2-8
Age Profile of Washington Labor Force

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

The repercussions of the "middle-aging" phenomenon may be further exacerbated during a business downturn when firms accelerate "delayering" management structure and cost cuttings in order to remain competitive in the global economy. This is similar to what happened in the first half of the 1990s, when the flattening or compressing of management structures in firms eliminated large numbers of mid-management positions. Many of these dislocated managers were unable to find employment with compensations comparable to their previous jobs.

The elderly workforce is also characterized by a high proportion of part-time and temporary working arrangements. Today, a lot of workers age 65 and over have part-time jobs, and few of them want to switch to full-time employment. Also, a majority of the elderly workers perceive their current working as temporary, indicating their readiness to change jobs or exit the labor market (for retirement).

The aging of the workforce will present unique challenges to employers. Businesses will need management and personnel practices that can effectively accommodate older employees. Among the challenges will be: (a) establishing new reward and incentive structures as traditional hierarchical promotional opportunities decline; (b) facilitating career or job changes for "squeezed" middle-age or "topped-out" older employees; (c) planning and implementing human resource management to accommodate less predictable retirement age and exits/re-entries of elderly workers; (d) meeting varied demand for employee benefits, e.g. the elderly workers'

preference for long-term care; (e) dealing with increased pressures on retirement systems; and (f) making work more versatile and challenging.

## Non-White and Hispanic Workforce

Along with the expected increase of older workers and women in the labor force, non-whites will constitute an increasing share of the Washington labor force in the coming decades. Labor force growth rates for African Americans, Asian Americans, and other non-whites are expected to be considerably higher than the white population. From 2000 to 2025, the non-white labor force in Washington is expected to grow at an annual rate of 2.2 percent, compared to the 0.9 percent and 1.1 percent annual rates for the white and the total labor force, respectively. As a result, non-white workers will account for 25.2 percent of the net labor force growth in the state between 2000 and 2025.

Changing racial composition of the state labor force over time results in higher labor force growth rates for non-whites relative to whites. In 1980, 6.2 percent of the Washington labor force was non-white; in 1990, the share increased to 8.5 percent. Non-whites are expected to constitute 12.2 percent of the state's labor force by the year 2000, 14.1 percent in 2010, and 15.2 percent by 2025. Table 2-5 shows the changing racial composition of the state labor force.

The main reason for an increasing share of non-whites in the labor force is that the non-white population is expected to grow at a much higher rate than the white population. A second factor is the younger age composition of the non-white population compared to whites. Non-whites are also expected to continue increasing their labor force participation rate.

Another important labor trend, in the state and nationwide, is ethnic diversification. Between 1990 and 2025, workers of Hispanic origin in the state will almost quadruple from 94,500 to 367,000. As a result, Hispanics will account for 9.1 percent of the Washington labor force by 2025, more than double the share of 3.7 percent in 1990.

Table 2-5
Labor Force Composition by Race: Washington

	Total	Share of Total Labor Force					
Year	Labor Force (1000s)	White	African American	Asian & Other	Total Non-White	Hispanic	
1990	2537.5	91.5%	2.7%	5.7%	8.5%	3.7%	
1995	2810.1	89.3%	3.1%	7.6%	10.7%	4.9%	
2000	3088.7	87.8%	3.4%	8.8%	12.2%	5.9%	
2005	3322.0	86.6%	3.6%	9.8%	13.4%	6.7%	
2010	3560.1	85.9%	3.8%	10.3%	14.1%	7.4%	
2015	3723.4	85.4%	3.8%	10.8%	14.6%	8.0%	
2025	3856.7	84.8%	3.9%	11.3%	15.2%	8.7%	
2025	4013.6	84.8%	3.9%	11.3%	15.2%	9.1%	

#### 2001 LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AND LABOR FORCE FORECAST

The trend toward racial and ethnic diversification poses a critical issue in the effort to elevate worker skills in the future. Today, the average education level of African American workers of every age cohort is far below their white counterparts. The gap has been narrowing, but at a slow pace. The gap for Hispanic workers is even greater. In 1990, only 56.7 percent of the Washington Hispanic population 25 years of age or older completed high school or equivalency, compared to the 85.0 percent rate for the non-Hispanic persons in the same age group. As future economic growth relies more and more on productivity improvement, raising the education levels of these fast-growing racial and ethnic minorities becomes a major policy concern.

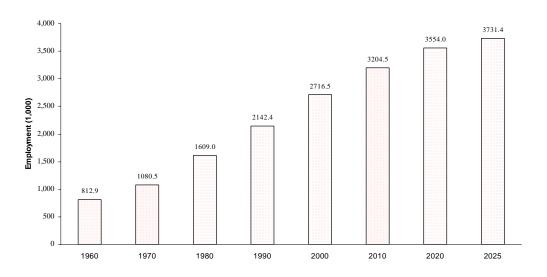
#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

# Long-Term Forecast of Washington Wage And Salary Employment

N 2000, THERE WERE 2.72 MILLION non-agricultural wage and salary jobs<sup>1</sup> in Washington State, about two-and-a-half times the state's employment level in 1970. Employment growth in the state averaged 3.1 percent per year between 1970 and 2000, far above the U.S. average annual rate of 2.1 percent during the same period.

Total Washington non-agricultural wage and salary employment is projected to reach 3.20 million in the year 2010 and 3.73 million by 2025 (Figure 3-1). This represents an average annual growth rate of 1.7 percent from 2000 to 2010, and 1.0 percent from 2010 to 2025. The forecast is reported in Table 3-1. Table 3-2 presents a more detailed, sector-by-sector forecast of wage and salary employment.

Figure 3-1
Washington Total Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The labor market terms used in this chapter have distinctive definitions: The **Labor Force** consists of the employed and the unemployed. It includes only non-institutionalized civilians 16 years of age and older. **Total Employment** is the number of employed persons by place of residence, including the self-employed and persons working in agricultural jobs. Total employment excludes non-civilian military personnel. The **Unemployed** represents the number of persons in a given month who are not working but are actively seeking work, as indicated by unemployment insurance claims and responses to the Current Population Survey. **Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment** describes the number of jobs by place of work in non-agricultural industries in a given month reported by firms in the monthly Current Employment Statistics industry survey. The survey data are then extrapolated to produce an estimate of total industry employment. Non-agricultural wage and salary employment was about 89 percent of total employment in 1995.

Table 3-1
Washington Labor Force and Employment

Year	Labor Force	Total Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate(%)	Total Non-Agricultural Wage & Salary Employment
1970	1,417,100	1,285,900	131,200	9.3	1,080,500
1975	1,562,200	1,412,300	149,800	9.6	1,225,500
1980	1,984,600	1,828,200	156,400	7.9	1,609,000
1981	1,996,800	1,806,000	190,800	9.6	1,612,000
1982	2,024,500	1,778,900	245,600	12.1	1,568,800
1983	2,068,400	1,837,700	230,700	11.2	1,586,000
1984	2,050,400	1,856,900	193,600	9.4	1,659,700
1985	2,090,400	1,920,700	169,600	8.1	1,710,300
1986	2,198,500	2,017,800	180,700	8.2	1,769,900
1987	2,257,500	2,086,800	170,700	7.6	1,851,500
1988	2,315,800	2,172,800	142,900	6.2	1,941,100
1989	2,450,900	2,299,600	151,300	6.2	2,046,300
1990	2,537,454	2,412,950	124,504	4.9	2,142,400
1991	2,535,127	2,372,705	162,422	6.4	2,177,400
1992	2,648,164	2,446,787	201,377	7.6	2,221,900
1993	2,701,240	2,495,648	205,592	7.6	2,251,700
1994	2,716,400	2,542,861	173,539	6.4	2,304,100
1995	2,810,100	2,630,985	179,115	6.4	2,346,800
1996	2,878,600	2,691,573	187,027	6.5	2,415,600
1997	2,981,200	2,839,544	141,656	4.8	2,514,200
1998	3,036,600	2,891,931	144,669	4.8	2,594,700
1999	3,075,800	2,930,579	145,221	4.7	2,648,200
2000	3,088,700	2,928,613	160,087	5.2	2,716,500
Forecast					
2005	3,322,030	3,137,243	184,787	5.6	2,966,200
2010	3,560,072	3,362,613	197,459	5.5	2,961,400
2015	3,723,372	3,555,329	168,043	4.5	3,204,500
2020	3,856,669	3,656,635	200,034	5.2	3,408,300
2025	4,013,575	3,819,848	193,727	4.8	3,731,400
Change					
1970-1980	567,500	542,300			528,500
1980-1990	552,854	584,750			533,400
1990-2000	551,246	515,663			574,100
2000-2010	471,372	434,000			488,000
2010-2025	453,503	457,235			526,900
Growth Rates					
1970-1980	3.4%	3.6%			4.1%
1980-1990	2.5%	2.8%			2.9%
1990-2000	2.0%	2.0%			2.4%
2000-2010	1.4%	1.4%			1.7%
2010-2025	0.8%	0.9%			1.0%

## **Long-Term Employment Trends**

Three important elements contribute to long-term employment trends. First is growth of the indigenous labor force through births, deaths, and aging. Second is the long-term level of unemployment. And third is the change in the size of the available labor force due to net migration (the difference between workers leaving and entering the state). Growth of the labor force due to net migration, in turn, depends heavily on the strength of the state economy relative to other parts of the country. The long-term labor force forecast in Chapter 2 of this report takes into account all these three elements. Based on these considerations, the Washington labor force is forecasted to increase by about 925,500 between 2000 and 2025.

At any given time, a portion of the labor force is unemployed. Since 1970, the Washington unemployment rate has ranged from a low of 4.7 percent in 1999 to a high of 12.1 percent in 1982. For the most part, the pattern of Washington's unemployment rate has tracked closely with the U.S. business cycle and U.S. unemployment rates, but at a level about 1 to 2 percentage points above the national average.

The unemployment rate in Washington has been about 2 to 4 percentage points above the U.S. rate during most economic downturns, but much closer to the U.S. rate during recoveries and expansions. Over the last ten years, however, the difference between Washington's and the U.S. unemployment rates has narrowed. In the 1990s, the Washington-U.S. difference averaged about 0.5 percentage point. The persistent gap between the U.S. and Washington unemployment rates reflects in part the relatively high concentration of seasonal jobs in the Washington economy. The gap is also related to the large numbers of in-migrants who are attracted to Washington during economic expansions, which limits reductions in the state's unemployment rate during good economic times.

The Washington economy experienced a strong growth in the second half of the 1990s, which drove the state unemployment rate below 5 percent. Between 2000 and 2025, the state unemployment rate is forecasted to fluctuate between 5.0 and 6.0 percent. The implication is that the trends and factors contributing to the narrowing gap between the U.S. and Washington unemployment rates will continue. By 2025, there will be 3.82 million employed Washington residents, an increase of about 0.89 million employed persons, or 30 percent, from the 2000 level.

## **Goods-Producing Employment**

Manufacturing will maintain its vital presence in the Washington economy over the next 25 years. Continued growth in capital investment for productivity enhancements, both nationally and internationally, will generate strong demand for goods produced by Washington's "high-tech" manufacturing sectors. In addition, long-term demand for Washington's natural resource products will continue to grow as both the national and international economies expand.

Washington Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Industry Table 3-2

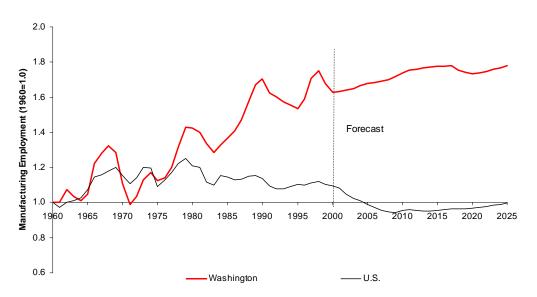
Manufacturing 1/ Non-durable Manufacturing	1960 216,700 70,800	Actual 1970 239,500 74,500	1980 308,800 87,600	1990 369,400 108,400	<b>2000</b> 351,300 107,800	<b>2005</b> 354,200 105,400	Forecast 2010 361,800 3	2015 367,600 112,200	<b>2020</b> 369,800 113,400	2025 379,900 115,300	Aver 1960-80 1.8	1990- -0.5	00 m	Average Annual Growth Rates (%)
Apparel Products Paper & Allied Products	3,700 17,900	5,500 19,800	6,500 17,600	7,900 18,100	8,100 15,600	6,700 15,300	7,000 15,000	7,300 15,000	7,200 14,500	7,300 14,300	2.9	2.0	2.0 0.3 0.3 -1.5	
Printing & Publishing	8,700	10,600	15,800	22,500	24,300	23,000	25,200	27,400	28,800	30,500	3.0	3.6	3.6 0.8	3.6 0.8 0.4
Misc. Non-durables	2,800	3,700	7,000	9,000	12,300	12,500	13,400	14,100	14,200	14,400	4.7	2.5	2.5 3.2	
Durable Manufacturing	145,900	165,000	221,200	260,900	243,600	248,800	253,200	255,400	256,400	264,600	2.1	1.7	1.7 -0.7	
Lumber & Wood Products	44,500	42,200	47,000	39,900	33,100	32,000	32,100	31,400	29,800	31,000	0.3	-1.6	-1.6 -1.9	
Furniture & Fixtures	2,900	3,500	3,300	4,100	4,900	5,200	5,400	5,200	4,800	4,900	0.6	2.2	2.2 1.8	
Clay, Glass, Stone Products	5,000	5,800	6,900	7,900	9,200	9,200	9,000	8,900	8,900	9,000	1.6	1.4	1.4 1.5	
Primary Metals	10,200	14,100	16,700	13,000	11,100	8,200	7,400	7,000	6,900	7,200	2.5	-2.5	-2.5 -1.6	
Fabricated Metal Products	6,700	7,400	11,700	12,200	15,000	15,200	15,600	15,700	15,600	16,000	2.8	0.4	0.4 2.1	
Non-Electrical Machinery	5,700	10,000	15,000	20,500	25,400	27,000	28,500	29,700	30,100	32,000	5.0	3.2	3.2 2.2	
Electrical Machinery	2,700	4,100	11,200	11,400	20,100	22,800	24,900	27,000	29,200	31,400	7.4	0.2		
Aircraft & Parts	57,800	61,500	79,600	116,200	86,200	89,700	87,800	86,000	84,200	83,200	1.6	3.9		
Other Trans. Equipment	7,800	13,300	18,700	14,800	15,200	14,600	14,300	13,000	12,500	12,000	4.5	-2.3	-2.3 0.3	
Instruments	1	i	1	14,700	14,600	14,800	16,400	17,800	18,600	19,800	l	1	-0.1	0.1 1.2
Miscellaneous Mfg.	1	i	4,600	6,100	8,800	10,100	11,800	13,700	15,800	18,100	1	2.9	2.9 3.7	3.7
Mining	1,800	1,700	3,200	3,700	3,600	3,800	4,000	4,100	4,200	4,300	2.9	1.5	1.5 -0.3	
Construction	44,600	53,400	92,900	117,300	161,700	173,200	181,600	188,300	193,900	200,700	3.7	2.4	2.4 3.3	
Trans., Comm., & Utilities 2/	61,300	72,200	91,400	113,000	146,300	157,700	168,500	179,600	188,400	200,500	2.0	2.1	2.1 2.6	2.1 2.6 1.4
Wholesale Trade	53,600	64,600	100,600	128,500	155,600	164,800	177,100	189,300	198,500	208,300	3.2	2.5		
Retail Trade	126,500	176,300	280,800	392,900	496,400	525,100	558,100	590,100	619,800	649,700	4.1	3.4	3.4 2.4	
Finance, Ins, Real Estate	38,300	58,400	91,800	115,500	137,500	152,400	163,300	173,500	183,200	192,800	4.5	2.3	2.3 1.8	
Services	103,500	169,700	308,500	504,300	781,200	909,500	1,025,800	1,120,200	1,174,600	1,247,900	5.6	5.0		
Traded Services 1/	17,200	38,500	83,500	146,300	276,200	332,000	382,300	417,800	428,300	447,100	8.2	5.8	5.8 6.6	œ
State & Local Government	115,900	186,500	263,000	323,900	412,800	451,400	493,600	525,400	550,900	577,000	4.2	2.1	2.1 2.5	
Federal Government	50,700	58,100	67,900	73,700	69,900	69,200	70,700	70,300	70,800	70,400	1.5	0.8	0.8 -0.5	
Goods-Producing	263,100	294,600	404,900	490,400	516,600	531,200	547,400	560,000	567,900	584,900	2.2	1.9	1.9 0.5	1.9 0.5 0.6
Service-Producing	549,800	785,900	1,204,100	1,652,000	2,199,900	2,430,200	2,657,100	2,848,300	2,986,100	3,146,500	4.0	3.2	3.2 2.9	3.2 2.9 1.9
Total Non-Agricultural Emn	812,900	1,080,500	1,609,000	2,142,400	2,716,500	2,961,400	3,204,500	3,408,300	3,554,000	3,731,400	3.5	2.9	2.9 2.4	2.9 2.4 1.7

1/ Significant break in series after 1990 due to reclassification of a portion of chemicals (SIC 2819) to commercial physical research (SIC 8731). 2/ Significant break in series in 1996 due to reclassification of a portion of Engineering Services (SIC 8711) to Sanitary Services (SIC4959).

However, internal efficiencies and technological changes leading to gains in productivity will serve to hold employment growth in check. Some of the gains in output per worker will be market driven, arising out of increased competition in a world economy. Others will be dictated by necessity -- the need to adapt to a more slowly growing labor force and, in some cases, growing scarcities in raw materials. In either case, the drive for greater efficiencies will constrain overall employment increases in the goods producing sectors (Figure 3-2). Thus, manufacturing employment in Washington is expected to rise 8 percent over the next 25 years. The national economy, in contrast, is expected to lose employment in manufacturing throughout the forecast period.

Washington is expected to share the national outlook for slower growth in population and employment in the future. But employment growth in the state manufacturing sector will, contrary to the projected negative growth for the U.S., stay in positive territory, owing to the concentration of capital equipment production in Washington's primary export base and to the state's accessibility to the rising Asian markets.

Figure 3-2
Manufacturing Employment Trends: Washington and U.S.



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

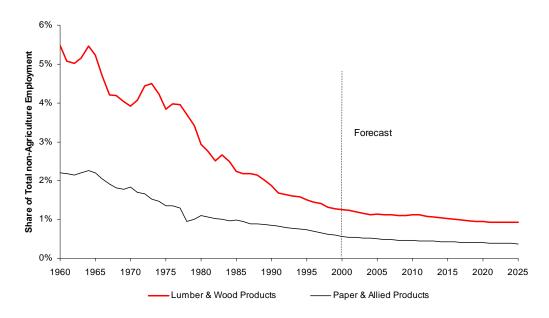
**APRIL 2001** 

The need for major investments in plant and equipment, both domestically and in the developing nations, is destined to accelerate through the next decade. Accordingly, growth in machinery and electronics will set the tempo of Washington's manufacturing advance in both the short- and long-run. Aerospace employment began a down cycle in the second half of 1998, but the decline had tapered off by late 2000. Further downsizing in lumber and wood products, apparel products, and paper and allied products will be offset by positive job growth in the rest of manufacturing in the next two-and-a-half decades.

#### **Lumber and Wood Products**

Jobs in lumber and wood products are expected to decline slightly throughout most of the forecast period. This is basically a continuation of the long-term trend extending back to the end of World War II. In 1947, the lumber and wood products industry employed 58,800 workers, which accounted for 8.9 percent of all non-farm jobs and 34 percent of all manufacturing jobs in the state. In 2000, employment stood at 33,100 workers and the shares had fallen to 1.2 percent and 9.4 percent, respectively. By 2025, lumber employment is projected to total 31,000 workers, representing 0.8 percent of total non-agriculture jobs and 8.1 percent of manufacturing jobs in the state (Figure 3-3).

Figure 3-3
Share of Total Washington Non-Agricultural Employment: Lumber and Paper Industries



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

The structure of the industry has changed dramatically in the post-war period. As with other goods-producing sectors, greater worker productivity has been a major factor behind a shrinking lumber and wood products employment base. Increased mechanization and newer logging and milling technology have decreased the number of workers needed for production.

Over the last decade a significant shift occurred on the supply side. In the late-1980s, policies corresponding to a heightened demand for environmental and wildlife protection effectively removed a sizable portion of the region's available stock of raw material from production. Federally owned forests, managed by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, were the focus of legal and regulatory efforts to comply with the Endangered Species Act. These measures were designed to protect the habitat of the Northern Spotted Owl, the Marbled Murlett, and various species of salmon. Consequently, timber sales from the federal

lands in the state have declined substantially, heightening the costs of raw material for local sawmills and planing mills.

It is expected that lumber and wood products employment will continue to be affected by environmental constraints throughout the forecast period. These pressures are likely to force accelerated investment in resource-saving (i.e. making more out of the same amount of raw material) and laborsaving technology. Higher material costs and competition from both Canadian lumber manufacturers and alternative building materials such as steel and composites will result in added emphasis on offsetting efforts to improve internal production efficiencies. These factors all point to a constrained demand for labor.

#### **Paper and Allied Products**

Employment in paper and allied products declined from 18,100 in 1990 to 15,600 in 2000, and is expected to dip slightly to 14,300 by 2025. In relative terms, the industry's employment share will drop from 0.6 percent of total non-agricultural wage and salary employment in 2000 to 0.4 percent in 2025. The industry is highly capital-intensive, and gains in productivity will enable output to climb while employment declines.

Many of the same forces affecting lumber and wood products apply to the pulp and paper industry. Environmental laws have affected processing requirements, and limits in harvesting have similarly affected supply. Indeed, these factors have contributed to several plant closures in the state during the past decade. To its advantage, the paper industry is somewhat more flexible than lumber in acquiring raw resources. Chips can be imported and recycled paper can be used. Many paper establishments already process a significant amount of recycled materials.

A significant portion of the industry's production in Washington is exported. But rising competition from Asian and Canadian operators will provide a dampening effect on the future growth of this industry in the state. On the other hand, environmental demands may result in accelerated investment in resource-saving and pollution abatement technologies. Adoption of these technologies will enhance the industry's viability in the region.

#### **Aerospace**

Aerospace employment in Washington increased 42 percent from 79,800 in December 1995 to 113,400 in July 1998. However, by 2000 industry employment had fallen back 25 percent to 86,200. Aerospace employment in the state is expected to further retrench over the forecast period as productivity gains and use of the production capacity in other states and nations more than offset output growth. Pressures are driving the emphasis on cost control within the industry on operating margins as Boeing competes head-on with Airbus Industries and other potential foreign producers.

Boeing had two major acquisitions in the 1990s. The first was the buyout of Rockwell International's aerospace and defense operations in 1996; and the second was a merger deal with McDonnell Douglas in 1997. Both significantly strengthen the company's defense and space

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

businesses. In November 2000, Boeing created an Air Traffic Management Division, enacting on the company's diversifying strategy to enhance business viability and growth.

The prospect for long-term demand is bright. Boeing predicts that the world air traffic will grow 4.9 percent per year on average over the next two decades. A total of 22,300 new jets worth \$1.5 trillion is envisioned, requiring output of 1,115 planes a year by the world's commercial aircraft manufacturers. A third of the demand is expected to emanate from replacement aircraft because of fuel inefficiency, excessive noise, or obsolescence. The remaining two thirds will be generated by new growth in air travel, particularly in the Asia-Pacific Rim area. A disproportionate amount of revenues will come from Asian carriers because of their growing demand for the more expensive two-aisle, long haul aircraft. Two-thirds of all new aircraft deliveries are expected to go to carriers outside the U.S.

Growth of aerospace employment in the state will be limited in the future by several factors. One major factor is foreign competition, particularly from Airbus. In the medium to long term, potential competition may come from Russia and Japan. And even some Pacific Rim nations have been developing manufacturing capabilities and may present competition to the local suppliers and subcontractors. The second factor is productivity. Facing the challenge of foreign competition, Boeing recognizes that productivity of its workers must continue to improve. Higher productivity means that job growth will be restrained. And, third, in order to gain new aircraft orders from foreign carriers, Boeing will likely continue to outsource certain components to manufacturers in the foreign carriers' home countries. Although the outsourcing practice appears to limit employment growth in Washington, it will also prevent the loss of market share (and jobs) to Airbus and other competitors.

#### **Other Transportation Equipment**

Other than aerospace, Washington's transportation equipment production consists of shipbuilding, boat building, and manufacturing of vehicles (primarily heavy trucks and trailers). Each segment of this industry faces very different market forces and prospects. Construction of the cross-Sound ferryboats in the past few years represented a major revenue source for the shipbuilding industry in the state. The passage of I-695 in 2000 poses an imminent threat to the shipyard jobs as it forces the state ferry system to curtail services and building of new vessels. Fortunately, spin-off from the Navy's Everett Homeport is generating substantial overhaul and maintenance work now for local shipyards.

Luxury yachts and other pleasure craft have seen healthy business growth in the past decade and can be expected to move in tandem with the general economy. On the plus side, sales of heavy trucks and trailers can be expected to increase over time with the growth in capital investment at home and abroad.

#### **Primary Metals**

Washington's primary metals industry is dominated by aluminum smelting and refining. The availability of cheap, abundant, and reliable electrical power that is essential in the electrolytic

reduction process has long been a factor in siting aluminum plants in the region. Energy represents about 30 percent of aluminum production costs.

The region's aluminum producers enjoyed a distinct competitive advantage with respect to energy costs until a big electric rate increase in 1979. To remain competitive, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) agreed to tie power rate changes to the prevailing world price of finished aluminum and to participate in new plant and equipment investments to enhance overall operating efficiencies. This largely restored the industry's competitive position during the subsequent periods of high demand.

Several unsettling factors affected the picture in the early 1990s. World production exceeded demand and sales were maintained only by international agreement to address weakened market conditions. Russia possesses a significant aluminum production capacity. The prices fell precipitously in 1992-93 as the very weak ruble and the deteriorated domestic demand caused Russia to flood the world market with cheap aluminum ingots. Demand strengthened in 1994-99 and some idled capacity was put back on line.

The price and availability of electricity will clearly play a significant role in determining the future of aluminum production in Washington. Aluminum producers will see more competition for electricity use from residential, commercial, and other manufacturing consumers. In an evolving regime of energy deregulation, the electricity rates in the state will approach parity with elsewhere in the western states. The 2000 energy price hikes led to the full or partial closings of all of Washington's smelters. How much of the closed production capacity will be brought back on line will depend upon a resolution to the energy situation and aluminum prices in the international market.

Actually, the increased competition for electricity has already been realized. In late 1993, the BPA reduced by a quarter the amount of power available to aluminum producers and raised the price of electricity by 20 to 25 percent. In 1996, aluminum producers in the region negotiated a new contract with the BPA. The new agreement requires, for the next five years, that aluminum companies buy the BPA's electricity at fixed rates, but at the same time it allows the companies to purchase electricity from other suppliers.

Even under the pressure of growing foreign competition and rising input costs, employment in the state is expected to stabilize over time. This basically underscores the significant strides over the past decade-and-a-half that the industry has made in increasing efficiencies and enhancing competitiveness. Demand for primary and fabricated mental should remain strong throughout the forecast period, given the bullish outlook for both consumer and industrial durable goods. Australian-based BHP Steel opened its new steel rolling mill in Kalama in 1997, adding another dimension to this industry in the state.

#### **Machinery and Instruments**

Growth of Washington's machinery and instruments sector has been strong over the past 20 years, and will continue to show strength for the foreseeable future. Combined employment in electrical and non-electrical machinery and instruments manufacturing in the state has risen at a

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

robust 5 percent average annual pace since 1970 – almost twice the pace of total employment growth. Of particular note has been the explosive growth in electronics, and scientific and medical instruments.

In 2000, machinery and instruments industries in Washington employed 60,000 workers, accounting for 17.1 percent of total manufacturing jobs in the states. The forecast predicts a 39 percent employment increase in these sectors between 2000 and 2025. By 2025, about 22 percent of the state manufacturing jobs will be in these industries.

Market adjustments in the semiconductor industry; have brought about several restructurings in the past decade. But the demand for computer hardware is expected to remain strong throughout the forecast period: the need for business, at all levels, to increase productivity requires the application of computer technology and electronic devices as an integral part of the daily work environment; and the use of computers in schools and homes has also become commonplace.

The state's prospect for attracting and retaining high-technology manufacturing are likely to remain positive given the thrust of state and local economic development efforts. Cases in point include the Intel research and development facility at DuPont, and the new WaferTek plant at Camas, which opened in 1997.

Non-electrical machinery production is keyed largely to farm, construction, forest products, and other heavy industries. The outlook for this sector is bright, although below that of the electronics industry. Overall investment levels are expected to continue strong. At the same time, new and expanding markets in Europe, Asia, and Central and South America are strong possibilities in the long run given the accelerating trend toward greater industrialization in these economies.

#### **Food Processing**

The diversity of Washington's farm production is expected to continue. Major products in the state include frozen potatoes, apple juice, and processed seafood. In addition, roast coffee and coffee products are a growing segment. Increasing uses of mechanization, biotechnology, online telecommunication, global positioning systems, and remote sensing will characterize the industry's production process over the long run. But in contrast to sharp declines projected nationally to 2025, employment in Washington's food processing sector is expected to remain flat as the markets of the industry's products continue to expand, both domestically and overseas.

Crop production will drive the industry due to the importance of the state's fruit and vegetable harvests. Long-term prospects for processed fruits, vegetables, and specialty products look very strong. Some labor market and demographic trends favorable to raising the demand for convenience foods include: a growing number of households having two or more workers; and elderly population (age 65 years and older) increasing at a rate more than twice that of the total population.

Foreign exports are assumed to constitute ever-larger proportions of total sales over the long run. This is expected for both fresh and processed products. Niche markets will play increasingly

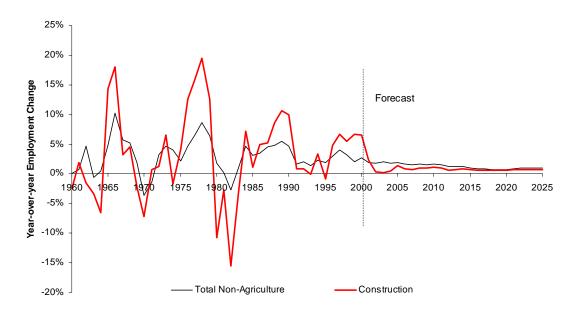
important roles, aided by the growing popularity of western style foods in the developing countries. The opening of economies in both Europe and Asia to free trade will add additional opportunities to expand export markets.

#### Construction

Historically, construction activity in the state has been very volatile. Short-term demand is sensitive to interest rates and the business cycle. In addition, large public works projects can exert a powerful short-term influence over the construction sector. In the long-term, however, the demand is primarily determined by construction costs, demographic changes, and employment growth. Population growth mainly affects the need for residential housing, whereas employment growth determines commercial buildings and non-building construction.

In spite of its many short-term ups and downs, the long-term average level of construction employment relative to total employment has actually been quite stable. Over the past 30 years, construction employment has been about 5.2 percent of total non-agricultural employment, with fluctuations occurring around this level during boom and bust periods. The lowest ratio of construction employment to total employment during the past 30 years was 4.7 percent, occurring on several occasions during economic slowdowns. The highest level of this ratio was 6.6 percent in 1979, when an economic boom was underway and the Washington Public Power Supply System had five nuclear power plants under construction. As of 2000, construction industry accounted for 6.0 percent of total non-farm employment, averaging 161,700 jobs.

Figure 3-4
Relative Growth in Construction and Total Non-Agricultural Employment



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Construction activity in the 1980s was brisk, spurred by a surging investment in commercial projects (i.e., office, industrial, and retail space) and the booming housing market in the second half of the decade. As a result, average growth in Washington construction employment increased to 2.4 percent per year over the decade. Construction employment again rose at a 3.3 percent annual rate between 1990 and 2000, especially since 1995 when rising personal income and low interest rates stimulated housing activities.

However, the high rate of growth in the 1990s will not sustain in the long run. Throughout the forecast period population growth is predicted to gradually slow down. Likewise, the rate of growth of total employment is forecast to fall gradually. These two factors suggest that both the residential and non-residential demand for construction employment also will increase at a slow rate over the forecast horizon. Some of the decline will be offset by rising incomes and the subsequent demand for more expensive housing and for remodeling/replacement. In addition, the prospects of low, stable long-term interest rates and inflation in the future would contribute to raising the levels of investment in residential and commercial buildings.

The future of construction industry will be influenced by technology changes: telecommunication, teleconferencing, home and mobile offices, telecommuting, Internet/electronic shopping, and inventory management. These factors will exert significant influence on both the quantity and the types of building space demanded.

Taking into account all the positive and negative factors affecting the industry's future, the forecast suggests that construction employment will lose some of its share of overall employment to the faster growing sectors. Construction employment as a share of total non-agricultural wage and salary employment will decline slightly from 6.0 percent in 2000 to 5.4 percent by 2025.

## **Service-Producing Employment**

The relationship between goods-producing industries and service producing sectors has changed substantially over the past 30 years. Increased productivity has slowed the pace of job growth in the goods producing sectors, while heightened demand for consumer services due to rising number of dual wage-earner families has accelerated job growth in services, retail trade, and other non-manufacturing sectors. Also of note is that, during the past 15 years, there has been tremendous growth in professional and high-tech services employment in the state.

In 1960, non-goods producing jobs represented about two-thirds of total non-agricultural wage and salary employment. By 2000, the share had risen over 80 percent. It is expected to rise further in the forecast to more than 84 percent by 2025 (Table 3-3).

### Transportation, Communication, and Utilities (T.C.U.)

Over the past 30 years, the share of total non-agricultural employment represented by T.C.U. has steadily declined from 6.7 percent in 1970 to 5.4 percent in 2000. Much of this is due to technological advances in industries such as trucking, shipping, air transportation, and

telecommunications. These advances have greatly increased capital intensity and labor productivity in these industries, resulting in large gains in output possible without a corresponding increase in employment.

Telecommunication is the industry where most new products/services will be seen in the next decade. This occurs mainly as a result of the integration of voice, data, and video services through wire line (coaxial or fiber optic cable) or wireless (radio systems, microwave, or satellites) networks. Almost every aspect of telecommunication services (including local exchange, cellular and Internet telephony, broadband networks, and global information flows) will undergo paradigm shifts. In the past few years the industry has spent heavily on building and expanding infrastructure. In addition, the U.S. Telecommunication Act of 1996 has just started showing its effect on removing barriers to local competition.

In recent years, the deregulation of most T.C.U. industries has resulted in higher operating efficiency and productivity gains. The forecast calls for the benefits of deregulation and further technological improvements, especially in communications, to sustain the demand for T.C.U. services and thus for the industry employment to increase at a healthy pace. T.C.U. jobs as a share of total non-agricultural employment is expected to stay around 5.3 percent over the forecast period.

#### Wholesale Trade

Although the function of the wholesale trade sector is selling merchandise to retailers (or other wholesalers), wholesale trade employment has grown at a substantially slower rate than retail trade employment over the past 30 years. This reflects the adoption of productivity-enhancing technologies and improvements in business practices such as computerization, sophisticated inventory controls, and more efficient systems of distribution and delivery. Productivity and management improvements are expected to continue. Vertical integration in the past decade, as evidenced by the evolving warehouse retailing, one-stop shopping, and specialty superstores has chipped away some employment growth in wholesale industry.

In 2000, wholesale trade employment in the state reached 155,600. It is predicted that the industry employment will grow at an average annual rate of 1.2 percent over the two-and-a-half decades after 2000 (Figure 3-5).

#### **Retail Trade**

Retail trade has increased its share of the state total employment over the past 30 years, primarily reflecting increases in income and spending power. During the 1960s and 1970s, growth of household income came from increases in wages and rising female labor participation. In the 1980s, little or no growth of real wages occurred, but spending power still increased as a result of

Percent Share of Total Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Industry Table 3-3

			Actual _					_Forecast		
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Manufacturing 1/	26.7%	22.2%	19.2%	17.2%	12.9%	12.0%	11.3%	10.8%	10.4%	10.2%
Non-durable Manufacturing	8.7	6.9	5.4	5.1	4.0	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1
Foods & Kindred Products	သ.သ	2.7	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1
Apparel Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Paper & Allied Products	2.2	1.8	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Printing & Publishing	<u>-1</u>	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Chemical & Products 1/	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Misc. Non-durables	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Durable Manufacturing	17.9	15.3	13.7	12.2	9.0	8.4	7.9	7.5	7.2	7.1
Lumber & Wood Products	5.5	3.9	2.9	1.9	1.2	<u>-</u>	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8
Furniture & Fixtures	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Clay, Glass, Stone Products	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Primary Metals	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Non-Electrical Machinery	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9
Electrical Machinery	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Aircraft & Parts	7.1	5.7	4.9	5.4	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.2
Other Trans. Equipment	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Instruments	1	1	1	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Miscellaneous Mfg.	1	1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Construction	5.5	4.9	5.8	5.5	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.4
Trans., Comm., & Utilities 2/	7.5	6.7	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.4
Wholesale Trade	6.6	6.0	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.6
Retail Trade	15.6	16.3	17.5	18.3	18.3	17.7	17.4	17.3	17.4	17.4
Finance, Ins, Real Estate	4.7	5.4	5.7	5.4	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2
Services	12.7	15.7	19.2	23.5	28.8	30.7	32.0	32.9	33.1	33.4
Traded Services 1/	2.1	3.6	5.2	6.8	10.2	11.2	11.9	12.3	12.1	12.0
State & Local Government	14.3	17.3	16.3	15.1	15.2	15.2	15.4	15.4	15.5	15.5
Federal Government	6.2	5.4	4.2	3.4	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.9
Goods-Producing	32.4	27.3	25.2	22.9	19.0	17.9	17.1	16.4	16.0	15.7
Service-Producing	67.6	72.7	74.8	77.1	81.0	82.1	82.9	83.6	84.0	84.3
Total Non-Agricultural Emp.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

<sup>1/</sup> Significant break in series after 1990 due to reclassification of a portion of chemicals (SIC 2819) to commercial physical research (SIC 8731). 2/ Significant break in series in 1996 due to reclassification of a portion of Engineering Services (SIC 8711) to Sanitary Services (SIC4959).

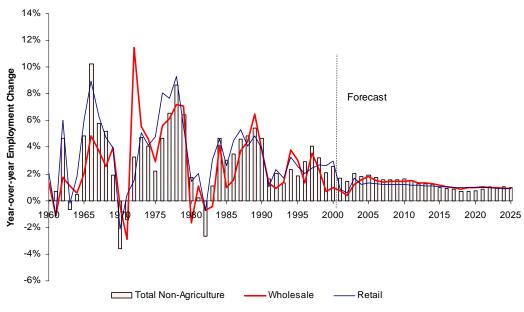


Figure 3-5
Relative Growth in Trade and Total Non-Agricultural Employment

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

continued growth in the labor earnings of women. In addition to providing higher household income, increases in the number of two income households also reduced the time available for preparation of meals at home, further fueling growth of eating and drinking establishments, the largest and fastest growing retail trade sub sector.

Factors affecting the retail employment forecast include the expectations that future wage increases will not match those of the 1960s and 1970s, and increases in total personal income will be slower in the next 25 years than was the case between 1970 and 2000 (see Chapter 4). In addition, since there are now already many women in the labor force, the growth of two-income households is expected to slow.

Other trends in retail trade will also act to reduce employment growth in that sector. Increasing worker productivity and economies of scale, generated by warehouse-type superstores, will continue to offset employment growth to some extent. Another uncertainty with respect to future retail employment growth is the evolution of electronic shopping through the Internet. The effect of e-tailing is double-edged: it brings to Washington retailers, big or small, relatively easy access to national and even international markets; but at the same time it subjects local retailers to more competition from out-of-state retail operations. General merchandise retailers will be more affected by this evolution of e-tailing than those emphasizing specialty goods and services.

Taking into account the factors discussed above, the forecast calls for retail trade employment to continue to rise, but at a slower rate than in the past. Consequently, retail trade's share of total wage and salary employment over the forecast years will remain flat around 17.5 percent.

#### Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (F.I.R.E.)

Historically, employment in F.I.R.E. has grown slightly faster than total wage and salary employment, reflecting the growing population and rising real personal income. In the late 1980s and most of the 1990s, this trend was reversed due to the slowing population growth, overbuilt of commercial real estate, productivity improvements, mergers, and a shift toward electronic banking. Offsetting these negative factors were the inter-temporal booms in mortgage financing/refinancing and the expanding services that financial institutions provide. The low and stable interests, accompanied by the prospering security markets, stimulated the growth in investment banking and brokerage businesses.

In the late 1990s, vigorous income growth and low mortgage interest rates gave rise to real estate financing activities. It also appeared that retrenchments and consolidations of the financial industry had quieted down. As a result, employment in F.I.R.E. increased steadily.

In the next two decades, aging of the population will raise the demand for F.I.R.E. services. This happens as the baby boom generation moves into the age cohorts that save a high proportion of their income, and as the elderly population with high assets ownership grow.

After 2000, employment in F.I.R.E. will increase, but at a slower rate than in the past. Computerization and other advances will increase growth in output per worker in F.I.R.E. and these productivity increases will offset to some extent the increases in demand for F.I.R.E. services, which have resulted from higher incomes, demographic changes, and the increased complexity of banking, finance, and insurance. Trends toward electronic banking and interstate banking are uncertainty factors affecting employment growth in this sector.

#### **Services**

Services have been the fastest growing industry division of the economy in recent years, and this is expected to continue during the forecast period. Services employment grew an average 5.2 percent per year in the past 30 years. In the future, services employment growth is expected to slow significantly to an annual rate of 2.8 percent from 2000 to 2010, and further slow to 1.3 percent per year through 2025 (Figure 3-6). However, services employment still remains the fastest growing sector throughout the forecast period. Its share of total wage and salary employment will grow from 28.8 percent in 2000 to 33.4 percent in 2025.

Traded services, including legal services, business services, engineering, management, and accounting services, represent more than one-third of total services employment. This group has been growing faster than the rest of the services division, and is predicted to lead this division in the future. By 2025, the traded services will have grown to 36 percent of all services employment. Growth in the traded services can be attributed to numerous factors. Much of this growth reflects the trend by businesses to contract out certain functions. The ever-increasing complexity of the legal, human resource, marketing, information technology, and e-commerce fields has resulted in more and more firms out-sourcing these functions.

Another factor in the growth of business services has been the increasing use of temporary personnel to perform specialized tasks or to meet peak periods of demand. As a result, there has been rapid growth in employment at temporary help and employment agencies.

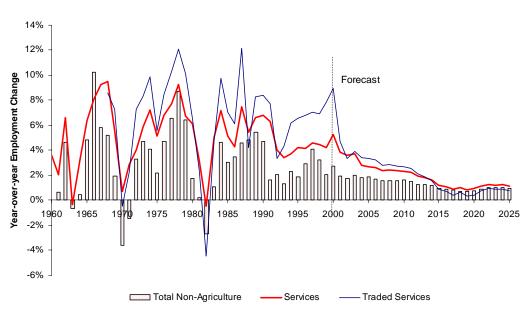


Figure 3-6
Employment Growth: Total Non-Agriculture, Services, and Traded Services

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

**APRIL 2001** 

The growth of prepackaged software industry in the state has been phenomenal. A Washington company, Microsoft Corporation, is the largest firm in this industry. An impact study by Conway and Associates indicates that Microsoft was the state's seventh largest employer in 1995. According to the report, each of the almost 9,000 Microsoft jobs leads to 3.4 other jobs in the state. Including stock options, the average employee at Microsoft earned more than \$138,000 in 1995. The company has been growing briskly, both domestically and in foreign markets. Company executives plan to add as many qualified employees as they can find in the next few years. The rapid growth of high-wage jobs at Microsoft and other software development companies in the Seattle metropolitan area has helped diversify as well as boost the state economy.

Although other services are not expected to grow as fast as traded services, they will continue to grow significantly faster than total wage and salary employment. Health services employment has experienced fast growth in the past; future growth, however, is expected to be only slightly above average. Historical increases in health services jobs reflect an increasing commitment of society's resources to health care. Future increases in the proportion of national income spent on health care depend on such factors as aging of the population, cost pressures, and development of advanced treatment procedures and new drugs.

Personal and repair services will probably be the weakest of the service subsectors, while hotels, amusement and recreation, education, and social services will be relatively strong.

#### **State and Local Government**

Education is a major function of state and local government. State and local government employment grew faster than total employment between 1958 and 1972, as the Baby Boom generation moved through the educational system. Growth in the primary school age (i.e. age 5-17) population began to slow down in the second half of the 1990s. However, the slowdown in the primary school age population comes at a time when growth in the college-age population (age 17 to 22) will be increasing. The increase in the college-age population will lead to adding employment in higher education. This trend is enhanced by the evolving New Economy, whose information-intensive and productivity-driven growth demands workers with post-secondary education.

Several factors are working together to slow down the growth of government employment. The first is passage of Initiative 601 in 1993, which limits growth by tying spending to the growth of total population and inflation. The second is a general sentiment across the nation that government has grown too large to be effectively managed, and thus the increasing practices of outsourcing government functions to private providers. The past several years have seen a significant slow down in the growth of Washington State government employment, and this is expected to continue into the future. Most of the growth in the combined "state and local government" sector is expected to occur in local government employment.

Overall, the proportion of total wage and salary employment represented by state and local government is expected to remain flat over the next 25 years, despite the projected increases in the demand for services provided by the public sector.

#### **Federal Government**

Federal government employment has declined as a percentage of total employment throughout the post-World War II era. This trend is expected to continue; although some areas of federal government activity, such as the postal service and park service, are expected to increase along with the population. In the past few years, base closures in other states transferred military personnel to Washington; these shifts helped but were not enough to offset declines in other areas of federal civilian employment. In the future, federal government employment level in the state is expected to remain essentially unchanged.

## **Employment Diversity**

In 1960, manufacturing and government accounted for almost half of Washington's wage and salary employment. Manufacturing employment at that time was dominated by aerospace employment and lumber and wood products employment. These two manufacturing industries accounted for almost half of manufacturing employment and close to 13 percent of total wage and salary employment. Government, excluding the armed forces, employed more than 20 percent of total wage and salary workers in the state. A third of government employment in 1960

#### 2001 LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AND LABOR FORCE FORECAST

was federal civilian workers, basically reflecting the strength and size of national defense-related establishments in Washington at that time.

For decades, the overall state economy moved in concert with the changes in its military, aerospace, and timber industries. Booms and busts in these industries frequently would induce the same condition in the overall state economy. However, this relationship has changed substantially. Government employment receded to about 18 percent of total wage and salary employment in 2000. This mainly reflects shrinkage in federal government employment, particularly in defense. Aerospace and timber industries now account for less than 5 percent of the state's non-farm employment. Manufacturing and government employment constituted less than one-third of non-agricultural employment in 2000, compared to about one-half in 1960.

Manufacturing employment in the state is projected to grow significantly slower than total employment in the next 25 years. As a result, the manufacturing share of total non-agricultural employment in is expected to decline from 12.0 percent in 2000 to 10.2 percent by 2025 (Figure 3-7). The forecast calls for a reduction in the employment share of lumber and wood products industry from 1.2 percent in 2000 to 0.8 percent in 2025. Also, the aerospace industry's share of total state employment is projected to decline from 3.2 percent in 2000 to 2.2 percent by 2025.

The fastest growing industry division of the Washington economy has been services. This reflects to a large degree the shift in consumption from goods to services that has taken place nationwide. However, the fastest growing services are business services and engineering, management and accounting services, both are components of traded services. The services division is expected to continue to gain employment share throughout the forecast period. By 2025, services will constitute about one-third of total wage and salary employment. That means services employment will be larger than manufacturing and government employment combined by the end of the forecast period.

100% Mining & 10.3% 13.1% Manufacturing 22.3% Share of Total Non-Agricultural Employment Governments 17.3% 80% 17.8% 10.5% T.C.U. & 22.6% 10.4% F.I.R.E. 60% 12.1% Services 33.4% 28.8% 40% 15.7% 20% Trades 24.0% 23.0% 22.3% Construction 6.0% 0%

2000

2025 (Forecast)

Figure 3-7
Distribution of Washington Employment by Industry

T.C.U. = Transportation, Communication, and Utilities. F.I.R.E. = Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

1970

**APRIL 2001** 

# Long-Term Forecast of Washington Personal Income

**T**RENDS IN WASHINGTON PERSONAL INCOME reflect the pace of the state's economic and population growth. For private businesses, the size and composition of personal income provide a good measure of markets and consumer demand. For governments, personal income is an important parameter in monitoring state economic conditions, anticipating tax revenues, and assessing the level of services required.

Per capita personal income is often used as an indicator of economic well being of the state residents. Trends in state per capita income reflect local economic growth, population characteristics, poverty status, business climate, standard of living, and the state's obligation and ability to provide adequate public services (i.e. the means-tested entitlement programs).

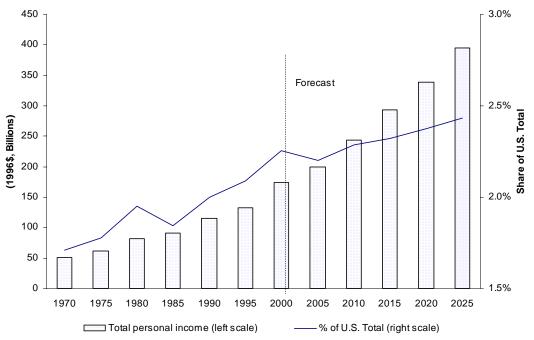
#### **Total Personal Income Trends**

In 2000, total personal income in Washington was \$173.8 billion. After adjusting for inflation, total state personal income in 2000 was more than three times its 1970 level, with an average annual growth rate of 4.1 percent over the past three decades. Total personal income in the state, in constant 1996 dollars, is projected to grow an average 3.3 percent a year between 2000 and 2025. This future growth represents a significant slowdown from the level that the state experienced in the past. The predicted slowdown in income growth reflects the expected lower increases in the state population and real per capita income. The latter factor roughly reflects the projected slowdown in labor force growth that will be partially offset by the expected productivity increase.

Washington State in 2000 accounted for 2.3 percent of total personal income in the nation, a significant increase from the 1.7 percent share in 1970. The increased share reflects the fact that the state economy and population have been expanding faster than the nation as a whole. Economic and population growth in the state is expected to be more synchronized with the nation in the future and, by 2025, about 2.4 percent of the nation's total personal income is forecasted to be in the state (Figure 4-1).

Personal income growth fluctuates with business cycles. Long-term personal income growth in Washington closely mirrors the national trend, but with more erratic and volatile short-term movements (Figure 4-2). However, volatility in state personal income trends seems to have abated since the mid-1980s. The trend toward more stable income growth is attributable to the declining role of cyclical industries and the growing diversification of the Washington economy.

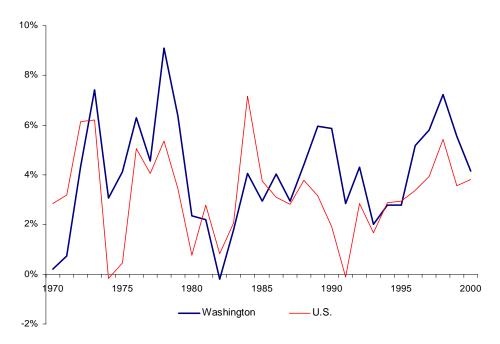
Figure 4-1
Total Personal Income: Washington, 1970-2025



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

Figure 4-2
Annual Change in Total Real Personal Income



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

#### **Income Growth by Component**

Personal income, as defined by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, has three major components: (1) earnings (wages, other labor income, and proprietor's income); (2) dividends, interest, and rent; and (3) government transfer payments. In 2000, earnings accounted for 73 percent of total personal income in Washington; and dividends/interest/rent and transfer payments represented 19 and 11 percent of total personal income, respectively. These three income components have been growing at varying rates over the past three decades (Table 4-1).

• Earnings. Washington real total earnings (in 1996 constant dollars) tripled from 40.0 billion in 1970 to 126.4 billion in 2000. The average annual growth rate of earnings was 3.9 percent, lower than the 4.1 percent rate for total personal income growth. Earnings growth is, understandably, subject to cyclical factors. The annual rate of real earning growth in the state has dipped to as low as -3.2 percent during the 1969-70 period, and has risen to a high of 9.9 percent in 1977-78.

In the first half of the 1990s, growth in total earnings in Washington significantly slowed. The 1.8 percent annual increase in 1993-95 was the lowest earnings growth the state has experienced since the 1982-83 recession period. Cutbacks in the aerospace industry were the major culprit for the mediocre performance. The earnings growth then rebounded strongly to 6.7 percent per year in the 1995-99 period, but again slowed to 2.9 percent in 2000.

Table 4-1
Real Income Growth by Component: Washington

			Avera	ge Annual	Growth Ra	ate (%)	
Income Components	1970-75	1975-80	1980-85	1985-90	1990-95	1995-00	1970-2000
Total Personal Income	3.9	5.7	2.2	4.6	2.9	5.6	4.1
Earnings	3.4	5.5	0.9	4.9	2.8	6.1	3.9
Dividends, Interest, and Rent	3.6	9.1	6.1	4.6	1.8	5.8	5.1
Transfer Payments	8.1	3.3	4.8	3.8	5.9	1.9	4.6

Earnings growth has also varied significantly among industries (Table 4-2). Farm income in real terms has been flat since 1970, and its share of total earnings in the state declined from 3.2 percent in 1970 to 0.9 percent in 2000. Real earnings from manufacturing increased 96 percent, but its share of total earnings declined slightly from 23 percent in 1970 to 20 percent in 1990, and to 14 percent in 2000.

Despite substantial job gains, retail and wholesale trade has shown only modest growth in earnings. Actually, retail and wholesale trade earnings as a share of total earnings declined from 17 percent in 1970 to 15 percent in 2000 -- a result of these sectors' low wages and slow wage growth. Real earnings from the services industry increased six fold over the 1970-2000 period, increasing at an annual rate of 6.7 percent -- far above the 3.9 percent growth rate for

total earnings. Services cover a wide range of sectors and occupations. Earnings in services started accelerating in the second half of the 1980s, as more growth took place in the high-paying sectors of this industry such as business and health services. In the second half of the 1990s, the strong economy, accompanied with a soaring equity market, raised the earnings growth to a 10.6 percent annual rate.

Since earnings are such a large proportion of total personal income, a special section at the end of this chapter is devoted to analyzing the sources of changes in average earnings over the past two decades.

Table 4-2
Growth in Real Earnings by Industry: Washington

		A	werage An	nual Growt	<b>h Rate (%)</b> .		
	1970-75	1975-80	1980-85	1985-90	1990-95	1995-00	1970-2000
Total Earnings	3.5	5.5	0.9	4.9	2.8	5.9	3.9
Farm	13.4	-7.9	-8.2	3.6	0.6	-2.5	-0.5
Manufacturing	1.7	6.9	-1.1	4.5	-1.1	2.6	2.2
T.C.U.	2.8	5.4	8.0	3.6	4.7	5.0	3.7
Wholesale & Retail	3.7	4.6	1.2	3.5	2.7	5.4	3.5
F.I.R.E.	1.2	8.5	0.5	6.9	5.4	7.4	4.9
Services	4.5	8.1	3.9	7.8	5.6	10.6	6.7

T.C.U.=Transportation, Communication, and Utilities. F.I.R.E.=Finance, Insurance & Real Estate.

• **Dividends, interest, and rent.** The proportion of total personal income derived from property- and saving-related income sources increased steadily from 14.3 percent in 1970 to 19.0 percent in 2000. The share of income from these sources increased in the 1980s due in part to high interest rates early in the decade. Soaring property value in the second half of the decade added to this growth. Between 1990 and 1995, real income from dividends, interest, and rent grew at an annual rate of 1.8 percent in the state, far lower than the long-term average of 5.1 percent. From 1995 to 2000, this component of personal income rebounded to an annual growth rate of 5.8 percent, due mainly to the rising real estate property value/rent in the state.

In the short term, income from dividends, interest, and rent is affected mainly by monetary and cyclical factors. Over the long run, it reflects past earnings and savings behavior. The future growth of this component of personal income thus depends on the state's ability to retain and attract families with the ability and propensity to save and invest.

• **Transfer payments.** The importance of transfer payments as a source of personal income has increased in the past three decades. In Washington, total transfer payments in real terms increased at an annual rate of 4.6 percent. Transfer payments as a share of total personal income increased from 10.0 percent in 1970 to 13.6 percent in 1995, and then declined to

11.4 percent in 2000. The growth of transfer payments reflects the impact of the government policies dealing with social security, welfare, and unemployment.

In 1999, about 58 percent of total transfer payments in the state were retirement and disability insurance benefits and Medicare payments. The level of transfer payments is affected by the state's demographic profile and relevant state and federal regulations (Figure 4-3). Aging of the population in the next few decades should contribute to the growth of this component of personal income.

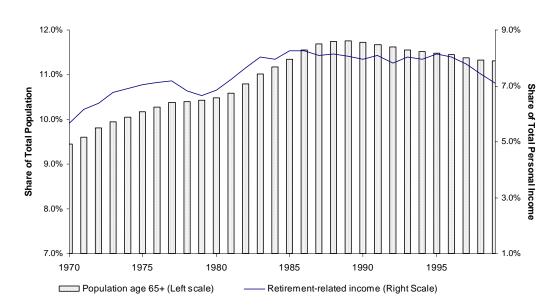


Figure 4-3
Elderly Population and Retirement-Related Payments\*

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

A significant portion of transfer payments is counter-cyclical in nature. In Washington, income derived from income maintenance and unemployment insurance benefit payments accounted for as high as 28.1 percent of total transfer payments during the cyclical trough in 1971, and as low as 12.9 percent in 1990 when the state economy peaked in the last business cycle. The share rose to 13.2 in 1999.

## **Per Capita Income Trends**

Real per capita income is derived by dividing total state personal income by total population in the state, then adjusting for inflation using the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) for personal consumption from the National Income and Product Account (1996 = 1.0).

<sup>\*</sup> Includes government retirement and disability insurance benefit payments, and Medicare payments to individuals.

In 2000, real per capita personal income for the state was estimated at \$29,376, which was about 5.0 percent above the U.S. average of \$27,977. The state real per capita income in 2000 nearly doubled its level in 1970.

Between 1970 and 2000, Washington State real per capita personal income grew at an average annual rate of 2.3 percent. The growth did not follow a smooth path, but fluctuated along with the prevailing state economic conditions. During most of the expansionary periods, state per capita personal income rose faster than the U.S. average. Conversely, per capita income growth in the state usually plummeted below the national trend during recessions or periods of slow economic growth (Figure 4-4).

7% 6% 5% 4% Year-to-year Change 3% 2% 1% 0% 1985 1995 2000 199 -1% -2% Washington U.S.

Figure 4-4
Annual Changes in Real Per Capita Income

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

APRIL 2001

In the past, growth in the state's aerospace industry, along with the industry's high wages and salaries, played a major role in the growth of Washington personal income. This was evident during the 1965-70 period when real per capita income in the state increased nearly 4.5 percent per year. On the other hand, the 1980-82 national recessions were particularly hard on the Washington economy. The state economy was hit severely and remained in recession for a longer period than the national economy, resulting in a decline in real per capita income.

Since the mid-1970s, growth in real per capita personal income has slowed, both in the state and in the nation. The slowdown in per capita personal income growth was more severe in the state than the nation through most of the 1980s. However, since 1988 the state has gained some ground relative to the nation in per capita income growth.

56

At the national level, the most commonly cited reason for sluggish personal income growth is the slowdown in productivity growth. This factor certainly also played a significant role in the earnings and income changes in the state. In addition, the state economy suffered from the collapse of non-oil commodity prices during the 1970s and the early 1980s that hurt its resource-based industries. Other contributing factors include the appreciation of the dollar in relation to foreign currencies in the first half of the 1980s that affected sales and employment in the state's export industries. The rise in real interest rates in the 1980s also contributed to lower demand for Washington's durable goods products. Two local events in the early 1980s -- the sudden termination of the Washington Public Power Supply System construction project and the loss of jobs in the shipbuilding sector -- exerted large, negative effects on state earnings and personal income. By 1985, the state per capita income was 0.6 percent below the national average.

In the second half of the 1980s, Washington experienced substantial job growth in aerospace and the high-tech manufacturing industries. At the same time the state saw significant growth in the evolving high-wage "knowledge-based" service sectors. In addition, Washington's export industries were aided by a decline in the value of the dollar relative to other currencies. As a result, real per capita income grew faster in the state than in the nation. In 1990, real per capita income in the state rose to a level 2.0 percent above the national average.

The state's economy was at full strength in 1990 when the U.S. economy was entering into a recession. In 1991, the aerospace sector started cutting back production to accommodate a shrinking commercial aircraft market. The negative income effect of the aerospace reduction offset to a large extent the income growth brought about by other prospering sectors (e.g., machinery manufacturing and business services) in the state. Real per capita income growth in Washington thus slowed down in the early 1990s, although the nation as a whole suffered an even greater drop in income growth. Between 1993 and 1995, the Washington economy stalled due to on-going job reductions in aerospace, while at the same time the national economic recovery picked up pace. Per capita income growth in the state relative to the U.S. average thus deteriorated during this period.

The Washington economy has accelerated strongly since 1995. Manufacturing employment increased 5.7 percent from 1995 to 2000. Besides strong national economic growth that raised the demand for goods produced in the state, two-thirds of the manufacturing growth came from hiring at Boeing to accommodate surging airplane orders. By 2000, job growth in Washington was broad-based, covering both manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors of the economy. Consequently, the state unemployment rate dipped to 5.2 percent, far below the average of 7.6 percent in the past three decades; and the employment-to-population ratio rose to a historic high. All of these have contributed to a big jump in per capita income growth.

Over the long run, per capita income in Washington has trended closely with the national average. State per capita income averaged 3 percent above the national level during the 1970-95 period. However, the volatility of certain manufacturing and resource-based industries in the state periodically narrowed or widened the per capita income gap between Washington and the

nation. In 2000, the state per capita income was 5 percent above the national average, a record high since the late 1970s (Figure 4-5).

1.10 1.08 1.06 Forecast WA/US Ratio 1.04 1.00 0.98 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020 2025

Figure 4-5
Ratio of Washington to U.S. Per Capita Income

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

## **Outlook for Personal Income Growth in Washington**

In the next 25 years, the Washington economy is expected to continue its diversification, with an industrial profile moving close to that of the nation. This development means that the state will likely experience more stable economic growth, thus less volatility in its personal income trends. But does this mean that the states per capita income level will converge to the national average in the future?

Long-term projections of state personal income suggest that Washington per capita personal income level will remain above the national average over the forecast horizon. But the gap between the state and the nation will narrow. Several factors contribute to the comparative strength of Washington's per capita income outlook:

- In the two and a half decades after 2000, worldwide aircraft demand is expected to remain strong.
- Washington will maintain a relatively strong manufacturing base. For example, agriculture and food products in the state will continue to benefit from the improving access to

worldwide food markets; and these markets are expected to expand as a result of increasing consumption by rapidly growing Pacific Rim economies.

- The state's high wage durable goods and high-technology industries will benefit from the expected macroeconomic trends toward lower and more stable real interest rates, accompanied by increasing international demand for capital goods.
- A more integrated global economy will help expand state exports and stimulate exportrelated business activities. Furthermore, Washington has the geographic advantage that endows it with great potential to attract foreign investments.
- Recent business expansion and investment activities in the state suggest that the state has had
  the critical mass to continue attracting a variety of high-tech manufacturing and knowledgebased business service industries. The growth of high wage jobs in these industries will help
  raise the states per capita income.

The per capita income projection model, which is used to forecast state personal income growth, incorporates the above factors that are critical to explaining per capita income growth in Washington compared to the nation.

#### Per Capita Income Growth Trend

Between 1970 and 2000, real per capita income in the state grew at an average 2.3 percent per year. In the next 25 years, real per capita income growth is expected to slow to an annual rate of 2.1 percent (Figure 4-6). The projected lower growth rate is caused by the expected decline in labor force growth and lowering of the employment-to-population ratio, both resulting from an aging population. These negative factors are somewhat offset by the expected productivity growth. The same trends will prevail nationally.

Table 4-3 shows the long-term personal income forecasts for Washington and the U.S.

Table 4-3
Personal Income Trends: Washington and U.S.

		Real Personal		Dollars)	Per (	Capita Income	(1996 Doll	ars)
Year	Washington (Billions)	Annual Change (%)	U.S. (Billions)	Annual Change (%)	Washington	Annual Change (%)	U.S.	Annual Change (%)
1975	62.20	4.1	3,503.96	0.5	17,310	2.3	16,205	-0.5
1976	66.13	6.3	3,681.33	5.1	18,041	4.2	16,862	4.1
1977	69.14	4.6	3,831.24	4.1	18,382	1.9	17,372	3.0
1978	75.43	9.1	4,037.31	5.4	19,389	5.5	18,112	4.3
1979	80.23	6.4	4,176.74	3.5	19,875	2.5	18,530	2.3
1980	82.10	2.3	4,208.74	0.8	19,695	-0.9	18,461	-0.4
1981	83.91	2.2	4,326.04	2.8	19,758	0.3	18,789	1.8
1982	83.76	-0.2	4,361.45	0.8	19,533	-1.1	18,763	-0.1
1983	85.27	1.8	4,452.33	2.1	19,716	0.9	18,982	1.2
1984	88.75	4.1	4,771.81	7.2	20,274	2.8	20,166	6.2
1985	91.35	2.9	4,951.47	3.8	20,605	1.6	20,739	2.8
1986	95.04	4.0	5,105.29	3.1	21,182	2.8	21,191	2.2
1987	97.85	3.0	5,248.74	2.8	21,453	1.3	21,592	1.9
1988	102.16	4.4	5,446.77	3.8	21,928	2.2	22,202	2.8
1989	108.24	6.0	5,619.24	3.2	22,643	3.3	22,687	2.2
1990	114.60	5.9	5,726.10	1.9	23,280	2.8	22,876	0.8
1991	117.85	2.8	5,719.67	-0.1	23,275	0.0	22,607	-1.2
1996	122.93	4.3	5,883.13	2.9	23,660	1.7	23,003	1.8
1993	125.39	2.0	5,980.37	1.7	23,569	-0.4	23,142	0.6
1994	128.87	2.8	6,152.06	2.9	23,761	0.8	23,577	1.9
1995	132.46	2.8	6,334.05	3.0	23,976	0.9	24,049	2.0
1996	139.32	5.2	6,547.32	3.4	24,782	3.4	24,629	2.4
1997	147.42	5.8	6,804.85	3.9	25,792	4.1	25,357	3.0
1998	158.06	7.2	7,173.46	5.4	27,262	5.7	26,488	4.5
1999	166.85	5.6	7,429.77	3.6	28,451	4.4	27,190	2.6
2000	173.79	4.2	7,713.20	3.8	29,376	3.3	27,977	2.9
Forecast								
2005	199.26		9,048.23		32,094		31,408	
2010	244.29		10,681.53		36,814		35,577	
2015	293.02		12,615.25		41,379		40,349	
2020 2025	338.23		14,243.61 16,266.47		44,911 49,393		43,784	
2023	395.65		10,200.47		49,393		48,092	
			Δ.,,	rogo Ammuol	Croudh Data	(0/)		
2000 2005		2.8	AVE	erage Annual 3.2	GIOWIII Kale	1.8		2.3
2000-2005								
2005-2010		4.2		3.4		2.8		2.5
2010-2015		3.7		3.4		2.4		2.5
2015-2025		2.9		2.5		1.7		1.6
2020-2025		3.2		2.7		1.9		1.9
1970-2000		4.1		3.2		2.3		2.2
2000-2025		3.3		3.0		2.1		2.2
•								

2.4% 2.2% 2.0% 1.6% 1.2% 1.0% 1970-1995 1995-2025

□ U.S.

Figure 4-6
Real Per Capita Income Growth

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

**APRIL 2001** 

Between 2000 and 2025, real per capita income growth in Washington is expected to average 2.1 percent per year, slightly above the same as the forecast for the nation as a whole. By 2025, real per capita income in Washington will rise to \$49,393, about 68 percent above the 2000 level.

□ Washington

Combining per capita income increase with population growth, total state personal income is expected to more than double over the next 25 years, from \$173.8 billion in 2000 to \$395.7 billion in 2025 (1996 constant dollars). This represents an average annual growth rate of 3.4 percent during the forecast period, higher than the 3.0 percent rate projected for the nation. As a result, Washington's share of total national personal income increases from 2.3 percent in 2000 to 2.4 percent in 2025.

## **Special Analysis: Trends in Earnings**

Earnings<sup>1</sup> account for more than two-thirds of total personal income. Changes in earnings thus set the tone for personal income growth. This section explores the sources of earnings changes in Washington over the past 20 years.

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The earnings data are estimated by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. Earnings include wage and salary disbursements, other labor income, and proprietors' income. Other labor income consists of the employers' contributions to benefit plans for their employees such as pensions and profit-sharing plans, group health and life insurance, supplemental unemployment insurance, privately administered worker's compensation plans, directors' fees, and other miscellaneous fees. While this definition of earnings does not include the value of all non-wage benefits, it is a much broader definition of compensation than just wage and salary disbursements.

#### Changes in Real Average Earnings in Washington, 1979-98

Changes in real average earnings in the state have exhibited a different course than the national average. Between 1979 and 1988, the state real average earnings declined relative to the U.S., but in 1988 the trend began to reverse. By 1998, Washington real average earnings were about 4.1 percent above the national average (Figure 4-7).

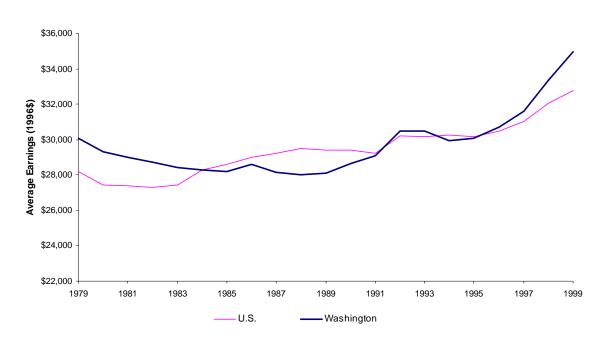


Figure 4-7
Real Average Earnings: Washington vs. U.S.

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, Forecasting Division

APRIL 2001

In 1979, Washington real average annual earning in 1996 constant dollars was \$30,072; but by 1988, real average earnings in the state dropped by \$2,053 to \$28,019. During the same period, real average earnings in the U.S. increased slightly from \$28,212 to \$29,492. In percentage terms, Washington's real average earnings per worker declined by 6.8 percent between 1979 and 1988, while real average earnings in the U.S. increased by 4.5 percent. Consequently, between 1979 and 1988, real average earnings in Washington changed from 6.6 percent above to 5.0 percent below the national average.

Since 1988, however, Washington's average earnings have grown faster than the U.S. average. In 1998, real average earnings in Washington rose to \$33,370, representing a gain of \$5,348 over the 1988 level. Real average earnings in the U.S. also increased during the period, but only by \$2,556. Over the period of 1988 to 1998, the state real average earnings rose by 19.1 percent, compared to the much lower growth of 8.7 percent for the nation as a whole. The earnings recovery in the state was disrupted in the 1993-95 period; but starting in 1996, real average earnings in Washington again exceeded the national average.

62

The analysis below allocates changes in real average earnings into four components:

• Industry composition – Industry composition refers to how jobs are distributed among the industries of the Washington or U.S. economy. Changes in industry composition affect average earnings because wage and earning levels vary among industries. A shift in employment from high-wage to low-wage industries affects aggregate average earnings.

Over the last two decades both the state and the nation have seen a dramatic change in industry composition. In both economies there has been a shift away from high paying manufacturing jobs toward lower paying retail trade and services jobs. In the 1980s, this shift slowed down the growth of real average earnings in the U.S., but contributed to an actual decline in real average earnings in Washington.

- Changes in real earnings within industries This component, by far, has been the most important contributor to the changes in Washington's real average earnings over the past two decades. Changes in real average earnings within industry sectors can be caused by a variety of factors including new technologies, changes in organizational structures, unionization, labor force supply, product and market changes, or the cyclical performance of the regional, national, and international economies.
- Incidence of part-time jobs Since average earnings are computed by dividing employment (with no regard to part-time or full-time status) into total earnings, an increase in the incidence of part time work would decrease average earnings. Part-time workers typically earn less than full-time workers in the same industry, due to fewer working hours and lower average wage rates. The fact that part-time workers often receive no or only partial non-wage benefits also lowers the earnings of part-time workers in relation to full-time workers. The percentage of part-time jobs relative to full-time jobs has been increasing steadily in the 1980s.

Trends in part-time employment are also related to changes in industry composition. Manufacturing jobs tend to be full-time. A much higher proportion of jobs in services and retail trade are part-time jobs. The steady loss of high quality, "family wage" jobs has been accompanied by a rise in part-time employment. Many part-time jobs are held by the second wage earners in households. While the entry of secondary household wage earners may have contributed to raising household incomes, to some extent it has also been a response to the decline in real average earnings of primary workers in the households.

• State versus nation factors – In addition to the contributions of industry composition, growth in part-time jobs, and earnings changes within industries, this analysis also examines the relative contributions of state and national factors to changes in Washington's average earnings. For example, some changes in industry composition in Washington resulted from national forces affecting all states, while other changes were due to factors particular to Washington. Thus in the analysis, the "industry composition" component of the earnings change is further divided into changes due to national factors verses unique state conditions. A similar distinction is provided for the other two factors affecting real average earnings.

The method used to compute the components of earnings change is depicted in detail in Appendix A of this chapter.

#### Real Average Earnings Decline in Washington, 1979-88

Washington real average earnings declined by \$2,053 from 1979 to 1988. The contributions of each of the four components of change are shown in Table 4-4. The first component, the change in industry composition, is responsible for about 38 percent of the total change. As the breakdown between national and state factors indicates, the change in Washington industry composition was strongly influenced by national trends during this period. This reflects the fact that most of the employment growth in both Washington and the U.S. between 1979 and 1988 took place in the lower wage employment sectors such as services and retail trade.

Table 4-4
Washington Real Average Earnings\*: Components of Change (1979-88)

		Change in		
	Industry Composition	Incidence of Part-Time Work	Average Earnings Within Industries	Total Change
State Factors	(\$16)	(\$330)	(\$2.869)	<i>(</i> \$3 215)
National Factors	(\$755)	\$49	\$1868	\$1,162
TOTAL	(\$771)	(\$281)	(\$1.001)	(\$2.053)

<sup>\*</sup>In 1996 dollars.

The second component of change is the incidence of part-time work. There was a large difference in the growth rates of part-time work for Washington and the U.S. between 1979 and 1988. In 1979, Washington and the U.S. were fairly close in the incidence of part-time work. In that year the proportion of Washington workers employed on a part-time basis represented 18.7 percent of total employment. In the U.S. the proportion was 17.8 percent. Over the next ten years, the state's proportion of part-time employees increased more than the U.S average. By 1988, Washington had 20.5 percent of total employment in part-time jobs, significantly above the 18.6 percent share for the nation. However, as Table 4-4 indicates, this component had a relatively small effect on the change in real average earnings in the state, accounting for only about one-seventh of the 1979-88 decline in real average earnings in Washington.

The third and largest contributor to the earnings decline in the 1980s is the change in real average earnings within industries. Almost half of the decline in real average earnings in Washington could be attributed to this component of change. State factors made a very large negative contribution to this change, which was offset somewhat by positive national changes. From 1979 to 1988, real average earnings declined within virtually all sectors of the Washington economy.

#### Rebound in Washington Real Average Earnings, 1988-98

The divergence of growth trends in real average earnings between the U.S. and Washington reached its maximum in 1988, since then the state experienced faster earning growth and gradually closed the gap.

As Table 4-5 shows, by 1998 real average earnings in Washington had recovered more than the ground lost in the 1980s. Changes in industry composition continued to have a significant negative contribution to average earnings during the period from 1988 to 1998. However, this negative effect of changing industrial composition on earnings growth was not unique for this state, but occurred nationwide.

Table 4-5
Washington Real Average Earnings\*: Components of Change (1988-98)

		Change in		
	Industry Composition	Incidence of Part-Time Work	Average Earnings Within Industries	Total Change
State Factors	\$192	(\$33)	\$3.185	\$3.343
National Factors	(\$1000)	\$414	\$2,590	\$2,004
TOTAL	(\$808)	\$381	\$5.775	\$5.348

<sup>\*</sup>In 1996 dollars.

From 1988 to 1998, the proportion of part-time work in Washington declined at the same rate as that in the U.S. as a whole. Consequently, the incidence of part-time working produced a modest positive effect on real average earnings in the state.

As in the 1979-88 period, the biggest contributor to the change in Washington average earnings since 1988 was the earnings changes within industries. In a reversal of the trend from 1979 to 1988, real average earnings in Washington grew in most sectors of the state economy and also exceeded those in the U.S. in most industry sectors. Between 1988 and 1998, Washington real average earnings increased by \$5,775 due to changes in this component. More than half of this increase could be attributed to unique state conditions and the remaining 45 percent to national factors.

#### Some Explanations for the Earnings Changes

There are many possible explanations of the causes of earnings changes. Analysis of the nationwide survey data and other more detailed information is required for a better understanding of the earnings changes in the state. However, based on aggregate level employment and earnings data presented here and other similar data analyzed at the national level, the following factors appear critical in affecting the earning changes:

• National factors in the change in industry composition – Over the past 20 years, high-paying jobs were lost as many U.S. manufacturing industries failed to keep an edge over advances abroad in technology, organization, and management. The spread of advanced mass production

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

technologies to countries with less skilled and lower wageworkers, together with the increased global mobility of capital, also resulted in a shift of some production abroad.

Between 1979 and 1988, two monetary developments further eroded the base of high-paying production jobs. The enormous appreciation of the dollar value in relation to foreign currencies in the late 1970s and early 1980s made the cost of U.S. goods much higher abroad and the prices of foreign goods much lower at home. In addition, high real interest rates in the U.S. discouraged domestic investment and depressed the demand for durable goods.

These circumstances exacerbated a long-term decline in manufacturing jobs due to increases in worker productivity. For example, by the late 1980s, Washington's lumber and wood products industry was producing the same amount of lumber as in the late 1970s, with about one-third fewer workers.

- State factors in the change in industry composition The negative effect of industry composition on personal earnings in Washington merely mirrored a nationwide phenomenon. Still, some special circumstances had occurred in the state that either raised or depressed the local earning levels. For example, the termination of Washington Public Power Supply System nuclear reactor construction resulted in the loss of thousands of high-skill, high-wage construction jobs in the early 1980s.
- State factors in the 1979-88 earnings decline within industry sectors For many Washington industries, a large portion of their output is exported. The fortunes of these Washington industries depend heavily upon the markets outside the state. The state economy began the 1980s with relatively high wages, strong labor unions, but dependence on several major manufacturing sectors that were increasingly subject to international competitive pressures. Also, in the 1980s, competitions from other regions of the country against major Washington sectors such as lumber, shipbuilding, and aluminum, placed additional downward pressure on wages in Washington industries.

Real average wages declined in nearly all sectors of the Washington economy during the 1980s. Productivity gains, which had boosted real wages in the 30 years after World War II, slowed down considerably in the 1970s and 1980s. Competitive international pressures (exacerbated by a rising dollar) also forced businesses to reduce costs and hold down wages. Real wage declines in manufacturing and construction spread to services, retail trade, and other secondary sectors.

• State factors in the 1988-98 earnings rise within industry sectors – Since the late 1980s, the employment profiles have changed for many major industries in Washington. High-skilled and high-paid occupations account for an increasing share of jobs in many industrial sectors. For example, in manufacturing, a growing proportion of the employment are professional technicians and engineers, outpacing the growth in supporting staff (i.e., clerks and secretaries) and production/assembly line workers. Consequently, within-the-industry earnings have been rising rapidly and have contributed to a significant increase in average aggregate earnings in the state. The soaring equity market in the second half of the 1990s has contributed substantially to the earnings of workers in the state's growing high-tech industries (namely, software, e-commerce, and biotechnology), whereas vested stock options comprise a major portion of employee compensation.

66

## APPENDIX 4-A DECOMPOSITION OF AVERAGE EARNINGS

	Change in Industry Composition	Change in Average Earnings Within Industries	Change in Incidence of Part-Time Work	Total Change
State Factors	Sc	Sw	Spt	Stot=Sc+Sw+Spt
National Factors	Nc	Nw	Npt	Ntot=Nc+Nw+Npt
Total	Ctot=Sc+Nc	Wtot=Sw+Nw	PTtot=Spt+Npt	CHtot=Ctot+Wtot+PTtot

#### Ctot =

 $\Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79 *SHARE79*EMPtot79* PTpct79*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot79*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot79 } \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79 *SHARE88*EMPtot88* PTpct79*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE88*EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79 *SHARE88*EMPtot88* PTpct79*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE88*EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79 *SHARE88*EMPtot88* PTpct79*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE88*EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79 *SHARE88*EMPtot88* PTpct79*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE88*EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79 *SHARE88*EMPtot88* PTpct79*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE88*EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79 *SHARE88*EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0} / \text{EMPtot89*(1-PTpct79)*1.0} / \text{EMPtot89*(1-PTpct79)*1.0$ 

#### Nc =

 $\Sigma$ [AVEARNfte79 \*SHARE79\*EMPtot79\* PTpct79\*0.5] + [AVEARNfte79\*SHARE79\*EMPtot79\*(1-PTpct79)\*1.0]/EMPtot79  $\Sigma$ [AVEARNfte79 \*NSHARE88\*EMPtot88\* PTpct79\*0.5] + [AVEARNfte79\*NSHARE88\*EMPtot88\*(1-PTpct79)\*1.0]/EMPtot88

#### Sc = Ctot-Nc

#### Wtot =

 $\Sigma [AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot79*PTpct79*0.5] + [AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot79*(1-PTpct79)*1.0]/EMPtot79 - \\ \Sigma [AVEARNfte88*SHARE79*EMPtot88*PTpct79*0.5] + [AVEARNfte88*SHARE79*EMPtot88*(1-PTpct79)*1.0]/EMPtot88$ 

#### Nw =

 $\Sigma$ [AVEARNfte79 \*SHARE79\*EMPtot79\* PTpct79\*0.5] + [AVEARNfte79\*SHARE79\*EMPtot79\*(1-PTpct79)\*1.0]/EMPtot79  $\Sigma$ [NAVEARNfte88 \*SHARE79\*EMPtot88\* PTpct79\*0.5] + [NAVEARNfte88\*SHARE79\*EMPtot88\*(1-PTpct79)\*1.0]/EMPtot88

#### Sw = Wtot-Nw

#### PTtot =

 $\Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot79*} \ PTpct79*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot79*}(1 \ PTpct79)*1.0]/\text{EMPtot79} \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot88*}(1-\text{PTpct88})*1.0]/\text{EMPtot88} \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] \\ - \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*} \ PTpct88*0.5] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPto$ 

#### Npt =

 $\Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot79*PTpct79*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot79*(1-PTpct79)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot79} \\ \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot88*NPTpct88*0.5}] + [\text{AVEARNfte79*SHARE79*EMPtot88*(1-NPTpct88)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88*(1-NPTpct88)*1.0}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*EMPtot88}] / \text{EMPtot88} \\ \Sigma [\text{AVEARNfte79*$ 

#### Spt = PTtot-Npt